

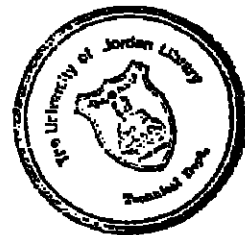
rhythm

LAST WEEK'S AVERAGE DAILY SALE 437,000

No 63,265

THE TIMES

THURSDAY DECEMBER 15 1988



30p

Flickering signal highlights BR 'skill shortage'



Maurice Holmes: If anything needs to be done it will be done immediately.

By Roland Rudd and Philip Webster

A skills shortage which is crippling British Rail has been highlighted by the Clapham Junction disaster, which killed 33 people.

As British Rail began its own inquiry into the triple train crash yesterday, senior trade union leaders said the company must regret the controversial pay package they imposed on 5,000 engineers responsible for maintenance of telecommunication and signals equipment.

The inquiry is expected to find that BR staff, called out on the night before the tragedy, failed to locate the signal fault which is being blamed for the crash.

Union leaders believe the package did nothing to alleviate low morale and did not go far enough to meet the discrepancies between the basic salary of a BR technician at £8,661 a year compared with the £11,158 salary of a British Telecom technician in a similar grade.

equivalent BT salary of £8,189. One of British Rail's arguments defending its lower salary structures is that pay is heavily boosted by overtime, but unions refuse to accept this claiming that longer working hours can themselves be a danger factor.

Mr Jimmy Knapp, the general secretary of the National Union of Railwaymen, said: "The retention of key staff is now reaching

Mr Anthony Hadden QC, the leader of the South Eastern circuit and a Crown Court recorder since 1977, is expected to be appointed today to chair the public inquiry into the rail disaster. Mr Roger Henderson QC is expected to appear for British Rail.

Victims named 2

crisis proportions in many parts of the country. BR has to tackle the fundamental problem of uncompetitive basic rates of pay and long hours if we are to continue to recruit and retain staff." The management

believed it was doing that in introducing allowances for nearly 20,000 staff who work shifts and who already qualified for irregular and unsocial hours payments.

Mr Neil Milligan, the general secretary of the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen, has welcomed proposals to increase the London area allowance by £10 a week for train drivers and £1,200 a year for signal and telecommunication staff. He said, however, that the "belated effort to recruit and retain staff" will not solve the crisis immediately.

"Unfortunately it will be a long time before British Rail have the essentially skilled staff, drivers, signal and telegraph staff, all trained and operational."

Labour leaders backed the unions yesterday with Mr Neil Kinnock calling for a £210 million injection by the Government for changes designed to reduce overcrowding on Inter-City and Network South-East. Large numbers of passengers packed into carriages would make any crash "particularly devastating", he said

in a letter to Mrs Thatcher. "The question of what the Government is doing to reduce overcrowding on commuter trains is given a sudden and horrific urgency by Monday's appalling accident," he wrote.

He also called for action to ease the "chronic staff shortages" afflicting BR, which was short of 7,500 workers throughout Britain. "When there is such widespread concern, when the problems are so clearly identified and the remedies so urgently needed, I hope you will agree that investment in improvement and in staff must be made as a matter of priority," he told the Prime Minister.

At the same time Mr John Prescott, Labour's transport spokesman, urged that the Clapham inquiry should look into the financing of British Rail.

In a letter to Mr Paul Channon, the Secretary of State for Transport, he wrote: "I am concerned that the public inquiry... should cover all aspects of passenger safety on Network South-East. This would include financing, staffing levels, the

problem of overcrowding and congestion and whether the overall responsibility for safety on the railways should be transferred from the Department of Transport to an independent body."

Among the first witnesses at yesterday's British Rail inquiry was Mr Alex McClymont, the driver who had stopped to use a trackside telephone to report a signal fault when a crowded express ploughed into the back of his stationary train.

The inquiry panel, headed by Mr Maurice Holmes, BR's safety director, will question train crews about signals and braking. "If the inquiry reveals that anything urgent needs to be done, it will be done immediately," said a BR spokesman.

A message of sympathy and condolences was sent to Mrs Thatcher yesterday by President Gorbachev. Amid the tragedy of the Armenia earthquake, he said: "We are taking particularly close to our hearts the pain and suffering of others and feeling acutely the significance of human solidarity."

ON SATURDAY IN COLOUR

Shooting the war



On September 3, 1939, at 11am, Britain declared war on Germany. Next year is the 50th anniversary of that momentous event, and the film and television industries do not intend to let it go unmarked.

In Hollywood, Robert Mitchum and a cast of thousands are making *War and Remembrance*. In Britain countless productions are in hand, each requiring not only an accurate script but also authentic uniforms, vehicles and firearms. How do they get them? On Saturday, in colour, *The Times* looks at the preparations for war.

Plus . . .

- Keeping up the castle: how does the aristocracy feel about Nicholas Ridley?
- In search of Santa: *The Times* scours Scandinavia for the real Father Christmas.
- On other pages: Clive Davis on Nat King Cole; Bryan Appleyard on Cyprus; Jonathan Meades on restaurants; Jane MacCurry on wine; Frances Bissell, *The Times* Cook; and Leyard Sjudic on the perfect cup of coffee.

WIN £52,000

Portfolio
PLUS
Accumulator

● Yesterday's £4,000 daily prize was shared between three winners (see page 3). Today's Portfolio Accumulator stands at £52,000. Prices: page 29

Blunt speaking by ministers at stormy six-hour Belfast meeting

Angry King attacks Irish on extradition

- Ministers continued their attack on the Irish Government over its refusal to extradite Father Patrick Ryan
- Sir Patrick Mayhew, the Attorney General, said the reasons given for the decision were "regrettably offensive"
- Mr Tom King, the Northern Ireland Secretary, formally requested Dublin to review its extradition law
- Irish ministers maintained that the case involving Father Ryan was unique and would not be repeated

By Robin Oakley, Richard Ford and Jamie Dettmer

British ministers kept up a barrage of criticism of the Irish authorities' refusal to extradite Father Patrick Ryan yesterday, and called for changes in Ireland's extradition law.

In the Commons, Sir

Policemen shot in post raid

By Stewart Tendler and Robin Young

Two London policemen and two armed robbers were wounded last night in an exchange of shots when Flying Squad detectives challenged a gang raiding a west London sub post office.

The shooting took place after Flying Squad officers investigating a series of robberies in west London, took up positions round a sub post office in Old Oak Common Lane, Acton. Just after 5pm five men arrived and launched the raid.

The staff sounded the alarm and police confronted the raiders. A flurry of shots rang out in the street leaving a detective-sergeant and a detective-constable wounded.

One of the wounded policemen was shot in the buttocks and the second received a wound to his left hand. The two armed robbers were not said to be seriously wounded. Detectives were last night searching for a fifth member of the gang who escaped.

Cricket crisis

English cricket was plunged into a new political crisis when Pakistan announced its withdrawal from a one-day international series in New Zealand because of the South African connections of some England players. Page 42

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Mr King, left, and Mr John Stanley, Minister of State for Northern Ireland, centre, greeting Mr Collins and Mr Lenihan.

£500,000 campaign to save the egg

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

A £500,000 advertising campaign funded by the Government will be launched tomorrow to restore public confidence in the safety of eating eggs.

The advertisement, issued jointly by the Department of Health and the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, will be carried for three days in national daily and Sunday newspapers, and in leading regional newspapers.

It is based on advice from the Government's Chief Medical Officer, Sir Donald Acheson. But there were few signs that the wording, agreed after the best part of three days of fractious negotiations between the two departments and involving the Prime Minister, will satisfy farmers facing financial ruin or Conservative MPs representing rural seats, who have blamed the salmonella scare on Mrs Edwina Currie, the Under Secretary of State for Health.

Dr David Clark, Labour's chief agriculture spokesman, said that Mrs Currie's remark that most egg production was continued on page 24, col 1

US urges pull-out by Israelis

By Philip Jacobson in Geneva and Andrew McEwen in London

General Vernon Walters, the US Ambassador to the United Nations, yesterday urged Israel to face up to its eventual need to pull out from the occupied territories.

In a speech which implicitly marked out the limits of Washington's support for Pressure on US 8 Peres switch 8

Jerusalem, he told the UN special session in Geneva: "For Israel, the choice is clear, albeit difficult. In order to achieve the security it deserves and requires, Israel must face up to the need for withdrawal from the occupied territories and to the need to accommodate legitimate Palestinian political rights."

Continued on page 24, col 6

Genetic engineering offers cure for haemophilia

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

A crucial discovery by researchers in genetic engineering at the National Institute for Medical Research, at Mill Hill, in north London, means that a cure for the main inherited blood disorders, such as haemophilia, should be possible within five years.

The discovery, in the most controversial area of medical research, gene replacement therapy, will allow genes made artificially in the laboratory to be inserted into humans to correct inherited illnesses.

Giving details of the research yesterday, Dr Dai Rees, secretary of the Medical Research Council, said the treatment would apply to most blood disorders caused by inherited defects. Haemophilia, the most prevalent inherited defect in Britain, affects 5,000 people, but other life-threatening conditions involving abnormal blood cells, such as thalassaemia and sickle-cell anaemia, affect hundreds of thousands of people world-wide.

The breakthrough, made by a team working with Dr Frank Grosveld, should allow these conditions to be corrected by inserting the appropriate purified artificial gene into the bone marrow, where blood is made.

After years of research, the discovery came eventually from the study of just one thalassaemia sufferer. Children who inherit the condition have severe anaemia because they can not make blood correctly. The abnormality appears in haemoglobin, the colouring substance in red blood cells which is also essential for carrying oxygen to the body.

Dr Grosveld's group traced the basic fault to part of the haemoglobin molecule, the globin, or protein part. Using the latest advances in genetic engineering, they isolated from healthy cells the gene that controlled the production of globin, then devised a method to make copies of the pure gene. The artificially produced genes were inserted into mice, which thereupon produced pure human globin in their red blood cells.

The scientist found that artificially produced genes would manufacture healthy globin no matter where they were inserted in the genetic material of mice. The discovery of this "position independence" when transplanted genes is the advance that is crucial for gene therapy.

While bone-marrow implants should be technically possible in three to five years, there were ethical issues to be resolved, Dr Rees said. A week ago, the United States Government refused permission for an experiment by Dr W. French Anderson, head of haematology at the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute, which would have put the first artificial gene into humans.

The American experiment was intended as a "dry run" in which the replacement gene would have had no therapeutic value but was to serve as a test marker in special cells that researchers had found to be effective against advanced cases of cancer.

Arthur Price of England
Sheffield Cutlery Album

This cutlery book has taken 86 years to write

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Cutlery with a Personal Guarantee

Chemist struck off roll for steroid deal with bodybuilders

By Mark Ellis

A pharmacist who sold anabolic steroids to professional bodybuilders and gymnasium owners became the first chemist in Britain to be struck off the register of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society for the offence yesterday.

Mr Halil Ozdemir, aged 33, who runs Woodside Pharmacy in Leytonstone High Street, east London, is said to have sold the drugs to buy the freehold on his property.

Judge Edward Sutcliffe, QC, chairman of the society's disciplinary statutory committee, said Mr Ozdemir had not accounted satisfactorily for at least 34 bottles of 100 Anapolon 50mg tablets and at least 187 vials of Somatomorm injections.

"He was supplying Anapolon and Somatomorm without prescription to professional bodybuilders and gymnasium owners; he did so knowing they were not on prescription; he did so knowing they possessed dangerous characteristics and he did so without great profit because it was convenient and easy cash," he said.

"Mr Ozdemir... has let down pharmacy and the good name of the profession. He is guilty of such misconduct to render him unfit to be on the register."

Mr Ozdemir, a Turkish

Cypriot, was found guilty of professional misconduct, but claimed he sent drugs to a hospital in the Turkish zone of Cyprus for children with growth deficiencies.

However, he had admitted to inspectors selling drugs to bodybuilders and gym owners at Tilbury, Essex, Stratford and Leytonstone, east London, and to a man in Croydon, Surrey, for only a few pounds profit. He said he sold steroids to an American athlete who had given him a signed photograph.

Mr Michael Sullivan, counsel for the society, branded Mr Ozdemir a "drug-peddler" and added that the case was particularly grave because he was in a position of trust in relation to dispensing drugs.

Mr Jonathan Fisher, representing Mr Ozdemir, said: "The question is whether Ozdemir is a pedlar of anabolic steroids in the same way that David Jenkins is, albeit on a smaller scale, because if so, it is a very grave charge and it is a destruction of everything for which he has worked since he left Turkish Cyprus."

Jenkins, a former British athlete and Olympic sprinter, was sentenced to seven years' jail this week by a court in California for his part in a racket to supply steroids.

The committee, comprising

five pharmacists, accepted that some drugs might have been sent to Cyprus with the help of a doctor who wrote out a prescription on behalf of the hospital.

Society inspectors visited the pharmacy in October last year, during a 16-month investigation into alleged illegal drug supplies.

They found a discrepancy in the quantity of anabolic steroids bought from wholesalers and the amount registered as sold.

No loss of stock was recorded. Mr Ozdemir is said to have told them the drugs had been sold on prescription to gym owners for several months even though there were no forms to confirm the transactions.

Mr Ozdemir came to Britain as a child and trained as a pharmacist at Leicester Polytechnic. He has run his business for the past six years and has three months in which to appeal.

He refused to comment on the verdict, only saying he intended to appeal.

After the hearing, Mr Alan Davidson, deputy head of the society's law department, said: "This is the first case of its kind. It is very unfortunate that a pharmacist had to be brought before the society in this way."

Pinch of courage from a young hero

CHRIS HARRIS



David Pinder, at four Britain's youngest liver transplant patient, meeting Michael Crawford after the awards ceremony.

By Emma Wilkins

The Duchess of York praised the bravery and determination of this year's winners of the Children of Courage Awards at Westminster Abbey yesterday.

The Duchess paid tribute to David Pinder, aged four, who is Britain's youngest liver transplant patient. David, from Wanne, near Hull, endured a series of operations while still a baby, before his transplant in America. He went on a seven-mile sponsored walk for the village hall to thank the people of Humber-side, who helped to pay for his trip.

David's mother, Mrs Susan Pinder, aged 26, said he asked the Duchess for a kiss when she presented him with a medal and scroll. "After she had kissed

him, he said he wanted to go home with her and meet Princess Beatrice."

The Duchess commended the prompt action of two schoolboys who grabbed the wheel of their school bus after the driver had a heart attack. Anthony Walters, aged 16, and Simon Marsh, aged 11, from Tredgar, Gwent, steered the bus up a grass verge where it crashed into the side of a house.

Anthony, who was badly cut and spent a month in hospital, said: "It didn't feel as though we were doing anything brave at the time. I was just terrified in case we crashed into the bus that was coming in the opposite direction."

Kelly Taylor, aged 11, had her left leg amputated only months after both her parents were killed in the Zeebrugge ferry

disaster. She has defied her disability to swim, dance and roller skate. Kelly, from Woolwich, south-east London, wants to be a nurse at the Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street. "Nurses are very kind," she said. "I like children and I want to look after them."

The other 11 winners shared her quiet courage. "I only think I am brave because people keep telling me I am", she said. The awards, sponsored by *Woman's Own*, were presented after a carol service in Westminster Abbey attended by local school children. The winners met celebrities including Adrian Moorhouse, the Olympic swimming champion, Michael Crawford, the actor, and Mike Smith, the television personality.

Portfolio
—PLUS—
Accumulator

Mr John Russell will buy a new television with his share of yesterday's Portfolio winnings.

Mr Russell, of Tatton Road North, Heaton Moor, Stockport, shared the £4,000 prize with Mrs Frances Williams of Roding Way, Wickford, Essex, and Mr Duncan Bowles of "Paddock", Gilbert's Drive, Eastdean, Eastbourne.

Church service changes

Male terms may be dropped

By Robin Young

A discussion document released by the Church of England's liturgical commission is suggesting that the phraseology of the Alternative Service Book might be amended to get rid of male terms which are meant to include women.

The report, which has been prepared for the General Synod next February, says, for example, that in some places where the service mentions "mankind" the word could be replaced with "the world"; that "men" might become "people"; and "man" be replaced with "one".

It is adamant, however, that changes in the application of male pronouns and possessive adjectives in relation to God are not appropriate. The report confines itself to the

language of worship needs to be adapted to allow for changing usage.

The report notes that in some places clergy have already been making their own adaptations to the text of their services, under a freedom given by Canon B5 for a minister to make variations which are not of "substantial importance".

However, it says: "Not everyone would regard some of the changes being made as not being of substantial importance, particularly when some people make changes in the application of male pronouns and possessive adjectives in relation to God."

Making Women Visible will be available in bookshops from January 16, at £3.50.

in the Alternative Service Book and makes no suggestions for adaptation of the text of the Book of Common Prayer to meet feminist objections to "inclusive language".

Nor is there yet any formal proposal to authorize the alternative texts suggested in the report at this stage. If the House of Bishops did sanction the changes they could be used optionally, but would not be obligatory.

The Right Rev Colin James, Bishop of Winchester and chairman of the commission, said yesterday: "We are not proposing the total elimination of male terms used to include women. This is thought to be neither practicable nor desirable. But we are of the opinion that the

Planning hitch for TV dishes

By Richard Evans
Media Editor

Television viewers may not use more than one satellite dish unless they obtain planning permission, the Government confirmed yesterday.

The clause in the Town and Country Planning General Development Order, 1977, could have disastrous consequences for British Satellite Broadcasting, which plans to launch three new satellite channels seven months after Sky Television and other stations start broadcasting early next year.

Viewers who buy a 60cm dish to receive programmes from the 16-channel Astra satellite will need planning permission if they want to set up a separate dish — known as a "aerial" — to receive BSBS programming.

Anyone using a second dish illegally could be fined up to £2,000 plus £20 for every day the second dish remains.

The Act was updated in October although officials decided to leave the dish clause unchanged, the Department of the Environment said yesterday.

Some councils in the north of England, where bigger dishes may be needed, have prepared strict guidelines on the consent of planning permission.

BSB said last night that the planning rules were a good reason why people should wait and see before rushing to buy any dish.

Optical fibre link to America opens

By Robert Matthews, Technology Correspondent

The world's first transatlantic optical fibre cable, capable of carrying up to 40,000 simultaneous telephone calls between America and the UK and France, opened for business yesterday.

Described as a "milestone in telecommunications history", the £220 million TAT-8 cable will double the amount of communication now possible using undersea links. Its launch also marks the introduction of higher service standards.

Previously, engineers have relied on copper as the means of transporting signals across the Atlantic. Such cables need many hundreds of "repeaters", lying in tens of thousands of feet of water, to boost the signals on their way.

TAT-8's main cable consists of just six hair-thin strands of special glass. Using tiny lasers, messages are converted into digital pulses of light, which are squirted down the fibres. The use of such technology, invented by British scientists at the former research laboratories of STC, the telecom-

munication company, will lead to greater clarity. Fewer repeaters will also improve reliability.

From its starting point in Tuckerton, New Jersey, the cable extends more than 3,500 miles to an ocean-bed branching point off the coast of France. There it divides to reach both France and Britain.

To protect against damage by sharks and submarines, the fibre is buried 3ft under the sea floor until the water is more than a third of a mile deep. At greater depths, it is protected with steel cladding.

British Telecom, AT&T of the US and France Telecom are the main contributors to the project. The cable itself was supplied by STC's factory in Southampton.

The Department of Trade and Industry's Communications Steering Group has advised against a complete switch to optical fibre-based communications. In a report published yesterday, it recommended a flexible policy, allowing further experimentation.

Channel 4 focuses on entertainment

By Andrew Billen, Arts Correspondent

Channel 4 is placing a greater emphasis on entertainment in its schedules for the new year and has succeeded in buying two leading series recently launched in the United States.

The station, which has a reputation for showing some of the US's best comedy series, such as *Cheers*, *The Cosby Show* and *The Golden Girls*, will screen *Roseanne* on Fridays from late January.

Made by the Cosby producers, Marcy Carney and Tom Werner, *Roseanne* stars the American comedienne Roseanne Barr.

As well as winning a large audience in the US the pro-

gramme has been welcomed by critics for centering on blue-collar America at a time when programmes are increasingly aimed at the affluent middle class.

Channel 4 will also show from next month the outstanding drama series of the American season, *Thirtysomething*, about a group of college graduates still in touch 10 years later and facing the first trappings of middle age.

Starting on New Year's Day and continuing over the next two Sundays, Channel 4 will present a festival to celebrate the eighty-fourth birthday of Sir Michael Tippett. It com-

prises a documentary showing the composer at work, a television version of his first opera, *The Midsummer Marriage*, and the wartime oratorio *A Child of Our Time*.

There will be two big movie seasons, the first featuring the new wave of Chinese filmmakers and the second an almost complete retrospective of the films of the Soviet director Andrei Tarkovsky.

Documentaries include *Vintage*, a history of drink, *On Trial*, on the future of the law and a further instalment of *Citizen 2000*, the yearly survey of 20 British children born in 1982.

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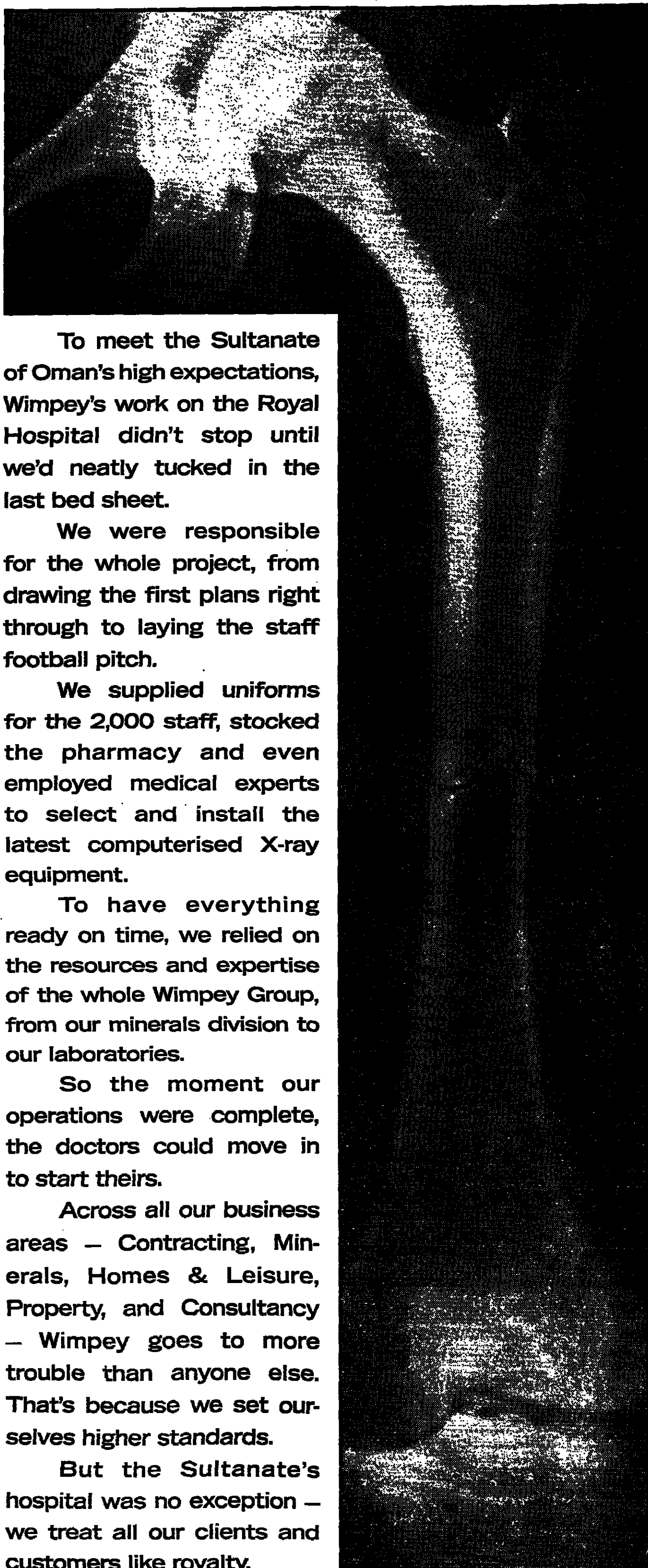
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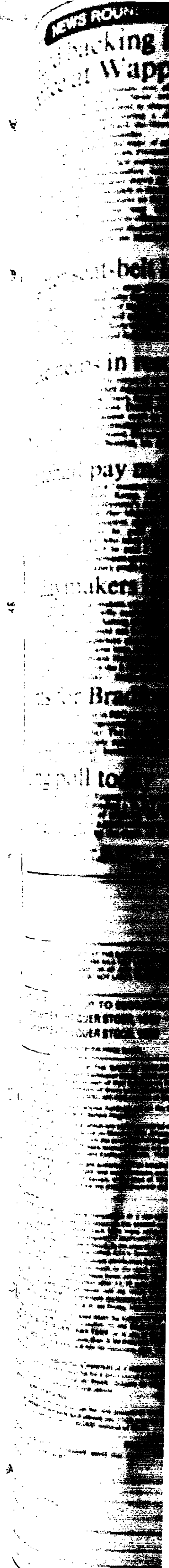
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NEWS ROUNDUP

Hurd backing for police at Wapping

The prosecution of several policemen over allegations of brutality during the protests at News International's Wapping plant should not be allowed to obscure the good work done by London police during a difficult and prolonged dispute, Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, told Police Federation officials yesterday.

His comments were made in the wake of an announcement earlier this week by the Crown Prosecution Service that a number of officers are to face summonses after an investigation by the Northamptonshire force. A list of between 20 and 30 officers has been drawn up. A decision on who will be prosecuted is to be made in the next few days. Mr Hurd said he could not comment on the cases, but he shared police concern over the time taken by the investigation and the distress caused to officers waiting for a conclusion. "I think it right everyone should be reminded of the stresses and strains to which the Metropolitan Police were exposed", Mr Hurd said.

Tighter seat-belt laws

Drivers will be fined for failing to strap children into the back seats of cars fitted with seat belts from next spring, Mr Peter Bottomley, Under Secretary of State for Transport, is confident the fine, probably £50, will reduce the number of children injured in car accidents. Sixty were killed and 7,000 injured while travelling unrestrained in the back seats of cars last year.

Duke helps in rescue

The Duke of York took part in the rescue of 18 Vietnamese "boat people" while his ship, HMS Edinburgh, was on her six-month voyage with a Royal Navy force which joined Australia's bicentennial celebrations. Details of the rescue, about 250 miles off the Vietnamese coast in September, emerged yesterday when the ship returned to her home port of Rosyth, Fife, with the duke on board. His return is in time for the christening of Princess Beatrice, his daughter, on Tuesday.

Whitehall pay move

The Government has achieved a "massive breakthrough" in Civil Service pay, Mr Peter Kemp, the permanent secretary in charge of the Government's new managerial initiative, said yesterday when Her Majesty's Stationery Office was launched as an executive agency. Stationery Office staff are in future to be paid according to performance. Dr Paul Freeman, who takes over in the new year as head of the agency, will be paid a minimum of £45,800 but will be eligible for increases up to £57,000 a year if it performs according to Treasury profit targets.

Holidaymakers hit

Thousands of would-be holidaymakers were told to stay at home yesterday as Spanish air traffic controllers joined the country's 24-hour general strike, halting all flights to Spain and the Canaries. Those who could not be contacted were put up in hotels near their departure airports and all are expected to leave today. At the same time, thousands had an extra day in their resorts. Thomson Holidays said they had managed to contact 90 per cent of the 2,700 passengers who should have left Britain yesterday. *Strike details, page 11*

Grants for Bradford

Bradford is to receive £56 million in EEC grants and loans to promote the city's economic regeneration, the European Commission announced yesterday. The money will be used to modernise the city's water supply, complete the ring road and provide support for small businesses and training programmes for the unemployed.

Epping poll today

Polling takes place today in the Epping Forest by-election, where the Conservatives are defending a 21,513 majority. Mr Steven Norris is confident of retaining the Conservatives' 15th safest seat, but with a much reduced majority. The by-election was prompted by the death of Sir John Biggs-Davison. *General Election: J Biggs-Davison (C) 31,536; A Humphris (SDP/Alliance) 10,023; S Murray (Lab) 9,499.* *Sketch, page 24*

Disastrous lack of stewardship by museums alarms MPs

Priceless collections 'deteriorating'

Museums angry at Commons criticism

By Simon Tait

By Martin Fletcher Political Reporter

An all-party committee of MPs condemned the Government, the British Museum and the Victoria and Albert Museum yesterday for their failure to look after priceless national art collections.

The authoritative Commons Public Accounts Committee said that it was "seriously concerned" at the deteriorating state of the collections and that there had been "a major breakdown over many years in the proper stewardship of major national assets". One museum director had admitted that its failure to undertake repairs constituted "a national disaster".

Mr Robert Sheldon, committee chairman, said the situation was "horrifying" and "alarming". He added: "We are trying to acquire treasures for the nation which are in danger of going overseas but meanwhile parts of the stock that we have are decaying in our vaults".

The committee said the situation had to be tackled urgently through a clear and concerted national programme, planned over a number of years and targeted at priority areas, and supported by an appropriate allocation of resources.

It had to be implemented with "unrelenting drive and determination... to secure the progressive improvements



Sir David Wilson: "financial trouble".



Mrs Esteve-Coll: "irreparable damage".

the public interest requires".

The report, based on an earlier investigation by the National Audit Office, said many of the seven million objects owned by the two museums were stored in cramped, chaotic, humid and overcrowded conditions. They believed the "major difficulties" faced by the British Museum and the V&A were probably shared by the other national museums and galleries. Many individual collections were still deteriorating while the condition of others was being "at

best contained or only very slowly improved".

The MPs said some of the delays in vital conservation work were "totally unacceptable". It had, for example, taken 128 years before a comprehensive survey of the V&A's National Art Library was carried out in 1985. That had revealed that thousands of valuable books and manuscripts were in urgent need of major repairs.

Mrs Elizabeth Esteve-Coll, director of the V&A, admitted to the MPs that it was "a national disaster" and "repre-

senting lasting and irreparable damage to some of the national heritage".

Some 100,000 items in the V&A's prints and drawings collection likewise required urgent treatment. With present staffing levels it would take 200 years to complete that work.

The museums themselves had failed to identify the full extent of the problems they faced, or the cost or time it would take to deal with them.

While the Government's Office of Arts and Libraries argued that there was scope

within the overall arts budget for allocating funds to meet the most urgent priorities, Sir David Wilson, director of the British Museum, had told the MPs that they were "in terrible trouble" financially and might have to make further staff cuts in 1989. The V&A was in a similar position.

Apart from calling for a concerted national programme, the MPs made a number of specific proposals. They said museums had to consider disposing of items. They accepted that reserve collections were important for research and disposals could be regretted by future generations, but continued: "There is no escape from the view that an inexorable rise in the size of the collections places serious demands on limited public funds".

The British Museum told the committee it had no intention of reviewing its present policy of non-disposal. The museums had to be more selective in their acquisitions. Their trustees had to be clear and frank about the big problems they faced in their statutory reports to Parliament. Computerized inventories of all collections had to be completed to enable proper stocktaking and ensure objects were not being lost or stolen.

Public Accounts Committee: Management of the Collections of the English National Museums and Galleries (Stationery Office, £5.10). *Leading article, page 17*

Libel law reform

MPs' call adds to pressure

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

Pressure is mounting for a change in the libel laws in the wake of *The Sun's* record £1 million payout to Elton John, the entertainer.

Twenty Labour MPs have tabled a Commons motion urging reform of the libel laws coupled with better compensation for injuries at work.

They are concerned at the contrast between the huge sums being awarded for libel, many in the past few weeks, and levels of compensation awarded for personal injuries.

The £1m award agreed by *The Sun*, double that awarded to Mr Jeffrey Archer last year, is the latest of a rash of awards which are fuelling pressure for legal reform.

Yesterday Mr Peter de Savary, a yacht-owning oil company chief, won undisclosed damages and costs in settlement of an action against the now-defunct *London Daily News*.

Mr John Frevite, for Mr de Savary, told Mr Justice Mich-

ael Davies in the High Court that in May 1987 the newspaper published reports suggesting, wrongly, that the Fraud Squad suspected Mr de Savary, Falmouth Oil Services and Falmouth Oil were linked with serious offences.

In the Commons motion tabled by Mr David Clelland, MP for Tynemouth, the MPs are calling on the Government to change the law "to provide for proper compensation for injuries sustained at work".

At the same time, they want "large proportions of libel damages to be paid into a legal aid fund to give financial assistance to those who cannot afford to fight to clear their names and reputations. The MPs speak of "the need to deter effectively irresponsible behaviour by the news media".

"We believe that the contrast between sums paid to already rich individuals for hurt feelings and those paid to working people who suffer

disabling injury and even death in the course of their work is a stark reminder of the contradictions in social values in today's Britain."

There are other moves for reform: Mr Tony Worthington, Labour MP for Clydebank and Milngavie, is introducing a private member's Bill in the new year which would create a statutory right of reply in the press. Legal aid is not available in libel cases.

Last year Sir James Goldsmith, the businessman, set up a fund to help individuals bring libel actions they could otherwise not afford.

Fashion prize

Paris (AFP) - Ms Yoshi Takata, an aide to Pierre Cardin, the French designer, for 35 years, has been awarded the City of Paris's Silver Medal for helping to boost France's fashion relations with Japan.

Hayward resigns from Life Guards

By Michael Evans, Defence Correspondent

Captain Simon Hayward resigned from the Army yesterday 16 months after being convicted of smuggling cannabis worth £500,000 into Sweden.

Captain Hayward, aged 33, sent his resignation letter from his cell in Gevaldigergatan jail outside Malmo in southern Sweden, where he is serving a five-year term.

The Ministry of Defence confirmed that the Army Board had written to the Life Guards officer two weeks ago, requesting his resignation. "His resignation arrived today", a spokesman said, adding that he would receive a pension when he reached 60.

The end of Captain Hayward's career came as Mr Christopher Murray, his London solicitor, confirmed that "new evidence" had come to light. He said: "We're looking into it, it's very encouraging evidence."

Mr Murray may petition

the Swedish courts to reopen the case.

Captain Hayward's salary of £17,500 was stopped as soon as he was found guilty in a Stockholm court in August last year, although he was still officially in the Army until yesterday. He has always claimed he was innocent of the smuggling charge. He appealed unsuccessfully against his conviction in September last year.

He was arrested in a remote part of central Sweden 21 months ago after driving his brother's Jaguar car from Ibiza. Swedish border police who checked his car found 50 kilos of cannabis hidden in the chassis.

Captain Hayward denied any knowledge of the drugs and said he had driven the car to Sweden on his brother's behalf to sell it. His brother Christopher disappeared after the arrest and has not been seen since.

Museums are greeting the Public Accounts Committee's criticism of their care of objects with unofficial but bitter resentment.

The report is the result of the PAC's consideration of the National Audit Office report last March which found bad storage, bad conservation and lack of inventory by the British Museum and V&A. The same points have been seized upon in the MPs' remarks. They have added that museums should consider disposing of items.

"It is very weak of them to suggest that again", Sir Hugh Leggitt, secretary of Heritage in Danger and an art dealer who advises a number of national institutions on acquisition, said.

"First, trustees will just dispose of the most unfashionable objects, and that will get them no money. Second, it will do critical damage to one of the greatest traditions in this country, private patronage and the giving of works of art to the nation."

There is also resentment at the suggestion that the museums - and by association that means all our national repositories - have neglected the treasures in their care. There has been insufficient funding for the training of conservators and equipment, Sir Hugh said. There was a backlog from the Second World War in some cases.

The MPs' call for more selectivity in acquisition is likely to receive a hollow laugh in national galleries whose purchase grants have been virtually frozen for the past three years. In a survey published earlier this year, the Museums and Galleries Commission criticized the Government for not supporting the museums more and came out heavily against the disposal of objects. "Disposal is not going to solve any of the problems we are talking about in the PAC report", Mr Peter Leggman, secretary of the commission, said.

The museums gave evidence to the PAC and made many of the points now being used against them. In 1980, the committee had asked the V&A how many more conservators it needed, and the reply was 40, double the existing figure.

One suggestion which is likely to be welcomed, however, is the committee's call for a "clear and concerted national programme" of conservation, and "appropriate allocation of resources".

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BRITISH MIDLAND

Kirklees report says authority was in breach of 1980 Education Act obligations

BARRY GREENWOOD

Education officers 'wrong to refuse choice of schools'

David Tyler, Education Editor

Education officers were wrong to refuse 22 families the schools of their choice on the grounds that they were already full. The parents fought the order for a year, sending their children to school in a room above a pub.

They had been told that there was room for their children only in Headfield Church of England School, Dewsbury, West Yorkshire, where 85 per cent of the children were Asian. Yesterday's report into the affair, by Mr Robert Hughes, chief executive of Kirklees Borough Council, makes it clear that this was not the case.

In fact, there was plenty of space and sufficient teachers, according to the report published yesterday. The school children were directed to what was already overcrowded. It was only when the parents appealed to the High Court last July that the council backed down.

The report said that the decision would have led to further overcrowding at Headfield while both accommodation and teachers were available in the chosen schools at Overthorpe and Thornhill.

The affair was surrounded in racial controversy. In 1980, the education committee wanted to allocate the majority of the spare places at Thornhill High School to Asian pupils from the Saville Town area. The system was not introduced and the Thornhill places were mostly taken up by white parents from Thornhill Lees Infant School.

As a result, the proportion of Asian to white children at Headfield Middle School and at Westborough and Birkdale high schools continued to increase. Mr Hughes says: "This was not the result the council had sought in 1980."

The parents said in the High Court that the council had fixed admission limits arti-

ficially low in order to force white children into Headfield. The Kirklees report says that although this was not true the officers had realized that granting the parents' choice of schools would have alleviated the overcrowding at Headfield but would have increased the preponderance of Asian children over white.

Mr Hughes says: "Members should have been told, quite explicitly, that these were not factors that could support the exclusion of the children from the schools of their parents' choice."

He concludes that none of the officers "took a sufficiently firm grip on the

None of the officers concerned took a sufficiently firm grip on the affair

— Mr Robert Hughes

affair." He says: "I am satisfied, therefore, that it was a lack of effective action on the part of senior officers in the Directorate of Education Services that caused the authority to be drawn into a wholly avoidable confrontation with a large body of aggrieved and resolute parents."

According to the report, the officers had placed the authority in breach of the obligation placed upon it under the 1980 Education Act to meet parents' choice of schools unless that would damage education in the school or lead to inefficient use of resources.

In no previous years had requests for the two Thornhill schools been denied although in at least two years it had meant that numbers of pupils had exceeded the council's limits.

The officers failure to seek approval for admission limits was a serious and ultimately

embarrassing omission. The authority's published admission arrangements also failed to tell parents, as the law required, of the standards by which their applications would be judged.

The 1987 investigation by the education officers was "fragmented and unco-ordinated", Mr Hughes says. "Some senior officers, at least, should have appreciated that the authority was effectively turning pupils away from under-utilized schools in favour of a 'policy school' which could scarcely have been expected to benefit from taking on additional pupils."

Of the original appeals by parents, Mr Hughes says: "Serious and avoidable errors were made on such a scale in the Thornhill School appeals as to belie claims made by officers in the directorate as to the importance that was attached to some appeals."

The report says that insufficient information was given to members of the appeal committees who were inadequately trained. Mr Hughes also says that the authority failed to give parents a clear understanding of their right of appeal.

He says: "It seems likely that many parents simply accept the authority's 'policy school', instead of their preferred school, because they fail to appreciate, from the lengthy information for parents document, that they have the right to appeal."

The situation could have been resolved as late as August last year when, says Mr Hughes, a very strong case for the admission of the children to the schools chosen by their parents could and should have been made. The same meeting was not told of legal advice that "there was a very grave risk" of the parents mounting a successful legal challenge to the council.



Girls from an independent Muslim high school picketing a meeting of Kirklees council at Huddersfield Town Hall yesterday. Muslim leaders said they would consider High Court action after the council deferred a decision on the request for grant aid from Zakaria school, Batley, West Yorkshire. The application is seen as a test case for

independent Muslim schools around the country. Yesterday about 1,000 Muslim children were kept at home as a protest and several hundred demonstrators lobbied the town hall. The council's education committee has recommended grant aid be refused because places are available in nearby state schools. Yesterday the council said it had received

new information about the future size of the school, suggesting it could grow from its present 127 pupils to 500, near the recommended minimum level for an effective high school. The deferral was greeted angrily by the demonstrators and the National Muslim Educational Services Group said it would consider High Court action against the authority.

'Council officials may be disciplined'

By Peter Davenport

Senior council education officers, criticized for their part in a dispute in which children were kept away from school and taught in a room above a public house for a year, may face disciplinary action.

Mr Robert Hughes, the chief executive of Kirklees Metropolitan Council in West Yorkshire, whose detailed report on the affair was published yesterday, disclosed that he had begun a preliminary investigation to see if the officers should face action.

The 149-page report into the school dispute at Dewsbury, in which the parents of 26 white children refused to send them to a school allocated by the Kirklees authority where 85 per cent of the pupils were Asian, con-

cluded that the affair had been "wholly avoidable".

Parents fought the decision in the High Court and won their action when the council admitted defeat on the second day. They always denied any racial implications.

The council case collapsed when evidence was put forward alleging flaws in its admissions policies, so that children were allowed to go to schools which the authority had claimed were full.

Mr Hughes said yesterday: "Mistakes were made and the affair was wholly avoidable. But we have been frank and open about the whole thing and I hope there will be no lasting damage."

His report criticized unnamed education officers for

their roles and their advice to councillors.

Their actions, it said, placed the authority in breach of its obligations under the Education Act, 1980. That states that the authority has to comply with the school preferences of parents.

Parental applications for their children to attend a chosen school were tested against incorrect guidelines which failed to take into account the extra teaching resources and accommodation that were being made available.

The report added that the officers' failure to seek approval for planned admission limits for those aged eight and over in 1987 was a "serious and ultimately embarrassing"

omission. Published admission arrangements were seriously deficient and unlawful.

Mr Hughes said that no one in the directorate of educational services took a firm grip on the affair.

"I am satisfied, therefore, that it was a lack of effective action of senior officers in the directorate, at this time, that caused the authority to be drawn into confrontation with a large body of aggrieved and resolute parents."

The report was presented to a meeting of the council yesterday.

School admissions and appeals procedures and the responsibilities of council education officers are to be examined by various committees in future.

Sponsors to pay £1m in opt-out school deal

By Douglas Broom Education Reporter

Skegness Grammar School, which last month became the first state school to vote to opt out of local authority control, has secured £1 million in a sponsorship deal with leading national companies.

The agreement, which is conditional on the 529-year-old Lincolnshire school succeeding in its application for grant-maintained status, will enable it to become a mixed boarding and day school.

As well as paying for the construction of a boarding house, the money will be used to establish a high technology business studies centre.

Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State for Education and Science, is expected to announce his decision on the school's application in the middle of February.

A ballot of the parents of the 600 pupils produced a 94.8 per cent majority in favour of opting out of the control of Conservative-run Lincolnshire County Council.

The school governors believe that admitting boarders to what has been a county day school will not fall foul of the prohibition on grant-maintained schools changing their character within five years of opting out.

They have been advised that provided it continues to operate along grammar school lines the school will not be open to this charge.

Mr John Webster, the headmaster, said yesterday: "A boarding house would swallow up the bulk of the money available. But we have made no secret of the fact that we have been, and still are, looking for sponsors."

Although the school's success in attracting private capital will be welcomed by ministers, it is likely to cause chagrin in some quarters because Skegness has raised more in a month than some new city technology colleges have managed in a year.

A Government training video on self-management by schools, filmed mainly at Skegness Grammar, is being re-shot to remove references to the school.

The Department of Education and Science said this was to avoid "embarrassment"

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Advertisement for the book 'WHAT IS IT? AND BY WHOM?' by Farhad Hormozi. The ad includes the title 'A GREAT CHALLENGE PROFIT FROM HUMAN VALUES', a description of the book's theme, and contact information for the publisher, International Advertising Association, in London and Fröburg, Switzerland.

Large vertical advertisement on the right edge of the page. It features a woman's face and text including 'Sponsors may examine protest of', 'Following violence fall in', and 'For this lonely selected little Father Christmas exists. You've got £200 to spare, it's you'.

Dons may boycott examinations as protest over pay

By Douglas Broom, Education Reporter

A boycott of all examination work by 31,000 university lecturers, which could lead to thousands of students being unable to take their degree finals, is almost certain to start in the New Year.

The Association of University Teachers yesterday published the results of a ballot of its members showing a two-to-one majority in favour of industrial action over pay.

Dons are angry because university vice-chancellors have refused to make a pay offer for the salary year ending in April on the ground that they have no money to fund a deal.

The association's ruling council, meeting at Warwick University, is expected to agree today that the boycott should start from the beginning of the academic term on January 9.

If it goes ahead, the action will involve a ban on setting, marking or invigilating examinations.

Everything from first-year exams to degree finals will be affected, but lecturers will be free to continue with work on school examinations such as GCSE and A level. Miss Diana Warwick, general secretary of the association, said yesterday: "The decline in academic pay is critical for universities and for the nation which needs graduates of high calibre."

"This vote demonstrates that our members are prepared to take damaging action because they feel they have no option. No union could have wished less to be forced into this situation, but when all reasonable discussions have failed, action is the only course."

Last year university academic staff were given a 23 per cent pay rise to cover the period from April 1986 to March 1988.

The association says that £50 million, which the Government is giving to the universities from next April and is unallocated so far, could be used to provide a 7 per cent across the board rise.

Mr Stephen Rouse, assistant secretary at the Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals, said: "Interfering with examinations would be unprofessional and a serious breach of contract". However, he added: "The vice-chancellors are confident that few would do so because it is so damaging to students who have no part in a squabble over staff pay".

Addressing the council's opening session, Mr Allen McTernan, association president, said reductions in government spending on universities was part of a policy of cutting the "life enhancing element of public sector expenditure".

He said: "What fraction of the cost of a single Trident missile would be necessary to wipe out the debts of universities accumulated since the cuts started in 1981?"

"How many flights to the Falklands would have to be cut in order to restore the recurrent grant to the university sector to a level that would provide proper salaries for university staff?"

He added: "We have a professional responsibility, individually and collectively, to speak up to protect and advance opportunities for higher education in this country and to guard the standards and integrity of scholarship and research".

Serpentine pirates capture rear admiral

GRAHAM WOOD



Rear Admiral Jeremy Larken, commander of the assault ship HMS Fearless during the Falklands campaign, with "pirates" Mr Derek Picot (left) general manager of the Sheraton Park Tower Hotel, London, and Mr Simon Kluge, an account executive at the hotel, preparing for a boat race across the Serpentine, Hyde Park in aid of the King George's Fund for Sailors.

MP to introduce Bill on national identity card

By Martin Fletcher, Political Reporter

The Commons will be asked to vote early in the new year on the introduction of a national identity card scheme. Mr Ralph Howell, Conservative MP for Norfolk North, who came third in the recent ballot for private member's Bills,

is going to introduce legislation which would make the carrying of such cards by everyone obligatory. He believes the scheme would be an important contribution towards improving law and order, and has the support of the 125,000-

strong Police Federation, but not the Government. The Association of Chief Police Officers' general purposes committee has recommended that its full council support the idea at its meeting in January.

Growing violence mars fall in crime

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Violent crime is up by 13 per cent in England and Wales to a new peak, though overall offences are down by 3 per cent, the biggest fall for 10 years.

The figures, published yesterday, caused a mixture of concern and pleasure to ministers. They are for recorded crime in the 12 months to September, compared with a similar period a year earlier.

The good sign is that overall crime - 93 per cent involves property - has shown a dramatic turn round this year. Between 1980 and 1987 there was an annual average increase of 5 per cent.

The news is even better for the third quarter alone: the drop was 7 per cent compared with a similar period last year.

However, the number of sexual crimes increased by 10 per cent to 26,800 and violent offences rose by 13 per cent to 153,500. Those increases compare with annual average rises of 3 per cent and 5 per cent respectively between 1980 and last year.

Robberies fell by 0.8 per cent to 31,900.

Burglaries dropped by 8 per cent to 73,000. Mr John Patten, Home Office Minister of State, said yesterday that meant about 200,000 fewer police hours being spent on dealing with them.

He described the overall drop as a triumph for effective preventive policing and for the active citizen involved in neighbourhood watch or

crime prevention panels. There were now 60,000 neighbourhood watch schemes involving more than three million people, he said.

Government action to increase public awareness of the need to safeguard property has also been directed at vehicle crime.

Only 1 per cent more thefts from vehicles were recorded. There had been a 6 per cent increase in the 12 months to last June and a 12 per cent rise in the year to last March. Offences of theft or unauthorised taking of a motor vehicle fell by 6 per cent in the 12 months to September.

The success in reducing crime overall is thought by Ministers partly to point to a knock-on effect of a combination of measures, including a mounting government campaign for safer cities.

Metropolitan force areas in England and Wales showed a drop of 4.6 per cent compared with one of 0.9 per cent in non-Metropolitan force areas. The biggest falls were on Merseyside (10.5 per cent) and West Midlands (9.9 per cent).

In the Metropolitan Police district and City of London there was a 1 per cent decrease.

Home Office Statistical Bulletin. Notifiable Offences Recorded by the Police in England and Wales - Third Quarter 1988. Statistical Department, Home Office, Lumar House, Croydon, Surrey CR0 9YD; £1.50.



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Arab moderates will press US for change in Palestine policy

From Christopher Walker, Cairo

The moderate Arab states are planning a diplomatic offensive to support Mr Yassir Arafat's speech to the United Nations in Geneva, and to increase pressure on the US to reverse its refusal to open contacts with the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Last night the official Middle East News Agency reported that President Mubarak of Egypt had personally rebuked Mr George Shultz, the outgoing US Secretary of State, over his policy towards the Palestinians.

"Mubarak told the US Secretary that the US must take a more positive and understanding attitude towards the constructive resolutions taken by the PLO in recent weeks," the agency said.

Arab sources said yesterday that the main reason for the campaign was fear that extremists would soon regain the upper hand if PLO moderation achieved no progress.

Washington's frosty reaction drew an Arab response that was a mixture of anger and frustration. It served to intensify anti-American sentiment in the Arab world after the decision to deny the PLO leader a visa to visit New

York. The Arab attitude was summed up by a cartoon in the Bahraini daily *Al-Khaleej* which showed Mr Arafat plucking out his eye and offering it to President Reagan, who responds by telling him: "I want the other eye."

In the United Arab Emirates, the daily *Al-Bayan* said in a leading article: "The offer eliminated all question marks raised by the United States and Israel over Palestinian intentions. America is pushing the Palestinian case back to the beginning. It could prompt the Palestinians to take the zero option."

Both President Mubarak and King Hussein of Jordan, two of the strongest backers of American policy in the region, warmly praised the PLO leader's speech and claimed that it adequately met the demands from Washington for the beginning of a peace dialogue.

"I do not know what more is required from Arafat," an exasperated Mr Mubarak told reporters as he emerged from the Soviet Embassy here, after paying respects to the victims of the Armenian earthquake.

"The US Administration should encourage the voice of moderation and should sup-

port its friends." The Egyptian leader, who is expected to make an early visit to Washington to press home his demands on the Bush Administration, added: "No head of state can guarantee 100 per cent that none of his citizens will undertake a terrorist operation to embarrass him."

"Arafat's speech covered all the points demanded by Washington and there is no need for statements claiming he did not mention these in a certain way."

A key element to the Arab plan is to open 1989 with an extraordinary Arab summit in Saudi Arabia which would take the Palestinian issue as its central theme and would invite Egypt to take part for the first time at such a gathering since its expulsion from the Arab League in 1979.

Yesterday President Assad of Syria, one of the bitterest Arab opponents of Egypt's return while she still maintains the peace treaty with Israel, was in Saudi Arabia for the first time in nearly four years. Western experts said his visit was connected with Saudi efforts to improve ties between Syria and Egypt and Syria and Iraq.

Peres set to switch jobs in power tactic



Mr Shimon Peres telling the Knesset yesterday that Mr Yassir Arafat's UN speech was a political disappointment.

Mr Shimon Peres is preparing to resign as Israel's Foreign Minister after deciding that Mr Yassir Arafat's speech to the UN means that the peace process is deadlocked for the foreseeable future.

The Labour leader, who is involved in the last stages of negotiations to form another coalition with Likud, has been persuaded that his best strategy now would be to take over the Finance Ministry. From there he could supervise a recovery plan for the ailing Israeli economy, rather than try to start negotiations for peace. Labour Party leaders hope that, if he succeeds as Finance Minister, it will give him the best chance of winning the next election.

Analysing the UN speech in the Knesset yesterday, Mr Peres showed that his views on this subject are the same as those of Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Likud Prime Minister, who called it "a monumental act of deception".

The Foreign Minister said the speech was at best a rhetorical success, but at the same time a political disappointment. It had failed to confront the real issues, he said. Promises made by the Palestine Liberation Organization to the US had not been fulfilled and expected decisions had not been taken. "All Arafat did was acrobatics," he said.

The PLO leader had forgotten his history because the 1947 UN resolution on

partitioning Palestine, which he now said he accepted, "was rejected by the Arabs, not just with words, but with swords, blood and war".

The PLO leader was trying to merge this dead resolution with the one passed in 1967 which implicitly acknowledged Israel's right to exist. "You cannot look at a cemetery and pretend it is a maternity ward," Mr Peres said.

As to renouncing terror, Mr Peres said the speech left the door open for further violence in the occupied territories by describing the uprising as "a democratic process". Did Mr Arafat really believe throwing petrol bombs which killed women and children was "a democratic process"? It was not enough to condemn terror. What was needed was a commitment not to use terror.

Inviting the UN to control a Palestinian state would mean Israel just giving up. "He wants us first to accept both an independent state and the UN, and only then to negotiate," he said.

Current pressure by the PLO was the result of the

uprising and its violence. "But you have either got to shoot or talk. Those who shoot at us will be shot right back. It is not important what he says. What is important is that he goes on shooting."

London differed even more sharply with the Israelis. Whitehall sources saying that Mr Shamir's reaction was "a matter for regret".

A Foreign Office spokesman noted: "We were encouraged by what Mr Arafat said in his speech. It represented a further move forward from the Algiers PNC (Palestine National Council) declaration, and underlined the extent to which the PLO had changed their position."

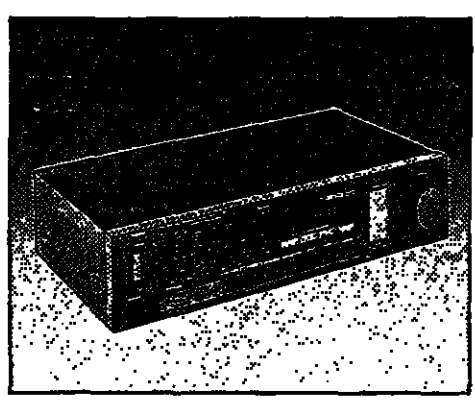
"We recognized that the language of the speech reflected the nature of the occasion, but we still hoped for greater clarity."

Whitehall sources would not say which aspect of the speech lacked clarity. Unlike many observers, the Foreign Office appeared not to be critical of Mr Arafat's failure explicitly to state that the PLO recognized the state of Israel.

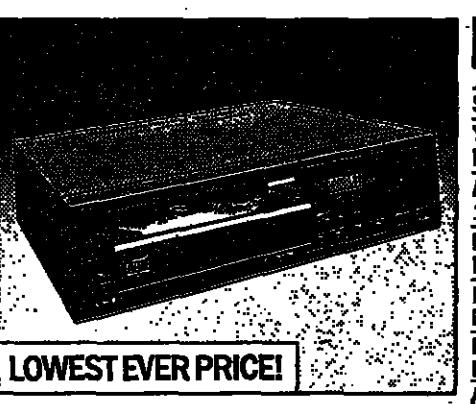
The sources said that repeated references to Israel in the speech amounted to implicit recognition.

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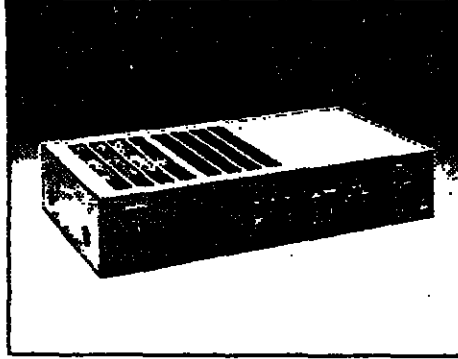
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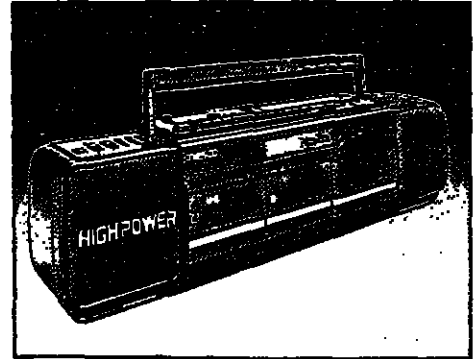
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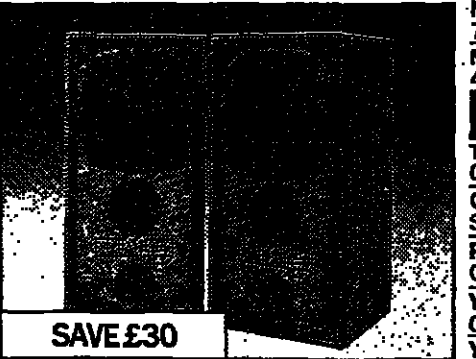
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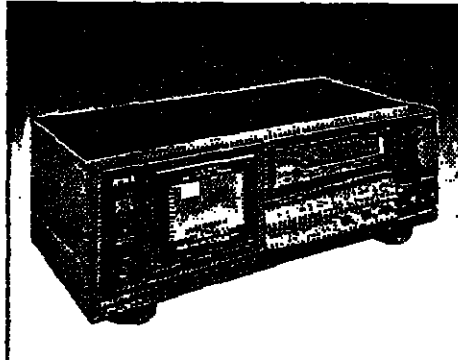
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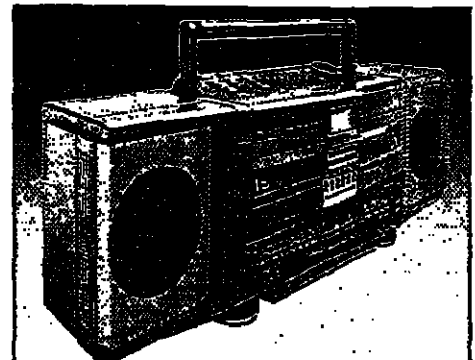
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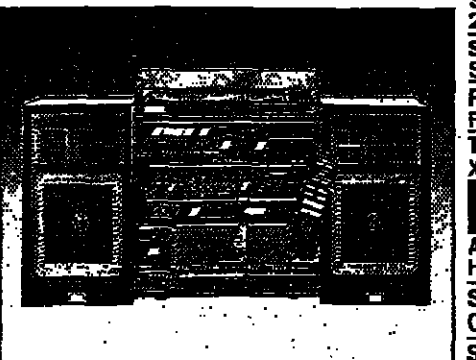
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British pledge to stop EEC fraud

From Michael Dynes, Brussels

Britain yesterday promised to "jump on" any evidence of corruption affecting the EEC budget, following the annual official report on Community finances for 1987 which exposed widespread fraud, deception and mismanagement.

But Mr John MacGregor, Minister for Agriculture, said yesterday that the document contained very little criticism of the United Kingdom.

It was imperative in future for every new spending proposal by the Commission to be examined thoroughly, and all scope for fraudulent practices rooted out. "Where we find evidence of corruption in Britain, we will jump on it," Mr MacGregor said.

The report, drawn up by the EEC's Court of Auditors, revealed rampant corruption in the allocation of pensions to Community staff, "manipulation" in agricultural spending, and widespread profiteering in beef export refunds.

An astonishingly large number of low-grade officials received disability pensions, which provide up to 70 per cent of normal salary for life. As many as nine out of 10 secretaries had obtained disability pensions, while almost

every driver and porter was assured of such a pension.

A comparison with a leading French financial institution over the same period showed that, while only 3 per cent of male bank workers qualified for disability pensions, the figure for EEC staff was more than 34 per cent.

The document also exposed serious malpractices in agriculture, in which the European Commission had been "manipulating" the Community's annual budget to try to demonstrate that restrictions on farm spending, first introduced after the Fontainebleau summit in 1984 and tightened after the Brussels summit in February, had been adhered to.

Substantial potential for fraud was unearthed, after a year-long investigation into beef exports from Britain, Ireland, West Germany and France demonstrated that hardly any of the exports on which refunds were paid had been checked by national customs authorities.

The Court of Auditors said that the new Commission, which takes office in the new year, must "correct" the situation.

WORLD ROUNDUP

Pretoria ready to return MiG pilot

Johannesburg - South Africa has offered to repatriate the pilot of an Angolan MiG-21 fighter aircraft which strayed into Namibia as part of a peace agreement signed this week with Angola and Cuba (Gavin Bell writes).

The unprecedented incursion took place on Tuesday, when the pilot apparently became lost in heavy cloud, ran out of fuel and landed in a field 150 miles south of the Angola-Namibia border. A Defence Force spokesman said the South African Air Force had not intercepted or communicated with the plane.

The incident took place as South Africa, Angola and Cuba were signing a protocol in Brazzaville providing for Namibian independence and withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola. Mr Pik Botha, the South African Foreign Minister, offered yesterday to return the plane and exchange the pilot for a South African soldier captured in Angola.

Cameraman freed

A British journalist held for almost 18 months by the right-wing Mozambican National Resistance in a remote bush camp was released yesterday as a gesture of goodwill for Christmas. The Foreign Office said that Mr Nicholas de la Casa, aged 28, a freelance cameraman, who was accused of being a British spy by the South African-backed guerrillas, had arrived in neighbouring Malawi. The British Government had refused to negotiate directly for his release.

Greek minister quits

Athens - Another minister resigned from the Greek Government yesterday plunging the Papandreu Administration, beleaguered by financial scandals, deeper into disarray (A Correspondent writes). Mr Stathis Yotas, the Junior Defence Minister, became the sixth minister to resign in as many weeks. Mr Yotas, who also resigned as a parliamentary deputy, blamed "interventions made recently in the performance of my duties".

Mandela's law award

Johannesburg (Reuters) - Nelson Mandela has received the highest qualification available in the South African legal system that has kept him in prison since 1962. Professor Marinus Weichers, of the University of South Africa, said yesterday that Mandela, aged 70, had passed by correspondence his final examination for admission to the bar as an advocate, the South African equivalent of a barrister. "It is a great achievement," Professor Weichers said.

Dissident released

Moscow (AP) - A man who was sentenced to seven years in a labour camp and two years of exile for protesting against the exile of Dr Andrei Sakharov, the Nobel Peace Prize winner, has been freed, a dissident source said yesterday. Alexander Podrabinek, an editor of the human rights journal *Ekspress-Khronika*, said Vazif Melnikov, a 50-year-old mathematician, was freed from exile in Siberia by a clemency order of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet.

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Health chief describes earthquake rescue work as troops stay on the alert for ethnic unrest

Soviet minister tells of 'London blitz' on enormous scale

From Mary Dejevsky, Moscow

Dr Yevgeny Chazov, the Soviet Health Minister, yesterday gave some of the most vivid and authoritative accounts yet of the chaos that faced the first Soviet rescue workers after the Armenian earthquake.

He also called for the establishment of a national emergency service that would be ready and trained to cope with disasters, such as the Chernobyl nuclear accident and earthquake relief.

Dr Chazov returned from Yerevan, the Armenian capital, on Tuesday after co-ordinating the medical services in the first five days of the rescue operation. The work of the medical teams has been widely praised as the most successful part of an otherwise inadequate response to the disaster by the Soviet emergency services.

The minister, who declined to confirm a Moscow radio report that he had condemned the Soviet civil defence organization as "completely bankrupt", said that he was informed about the scale of the disaster within hours and had the first medical teams on the spot the same day.

Specialist medical teams were assembled initially from Moscow, the republic of Georgia, and elsewhere in Armenia to fly to Leninakan. They were subsequently joined by teams from other Soviet cities. Dr Chazov said that the first few days had afforded scenes that

would never be forgotten by those who witnessed them.

He spoke of children found alive between dead parents, of limbs being amputated on the streets without anaesthetic, of instant decisions doctors had to take - like whether to remove the hand of a three-year-old girl.

He compared the devastation and the large number of "crush" injuries with the London blitz - except that the earthquake happened more

Moscow - Sergei Grigoryants, the editor of the Moscow-based unofficial journal, *Glasnost*, has been under arrest in Yerevan for more than a week (Mary Dejevsky writes). The Foreign Ministry said yesterday he was charged with breaking the curfew after ignoring troops' requests not to photograph. He was being detained for up to 30 days under emergency regulations.

suddenly and the numbers were even greater.

All the medical facilities in the town of Spitak were destroyed, as were most of the hospitals in Leninakan. There was no power and no running water. Seventy per cent of trained medical personnel in the area were killed.

Dr Chazov said that those who survived were in deep shock and unable to work. Many had lost members of their families. It had been essential to bring in trained

staff from outside, and to evacuate those most seriously injured to specialist hospitals. The majority were in Armenia and Georgia, but 270 were in Moscow. Of more than 5,000 people treated in hospital, only 50 had died.

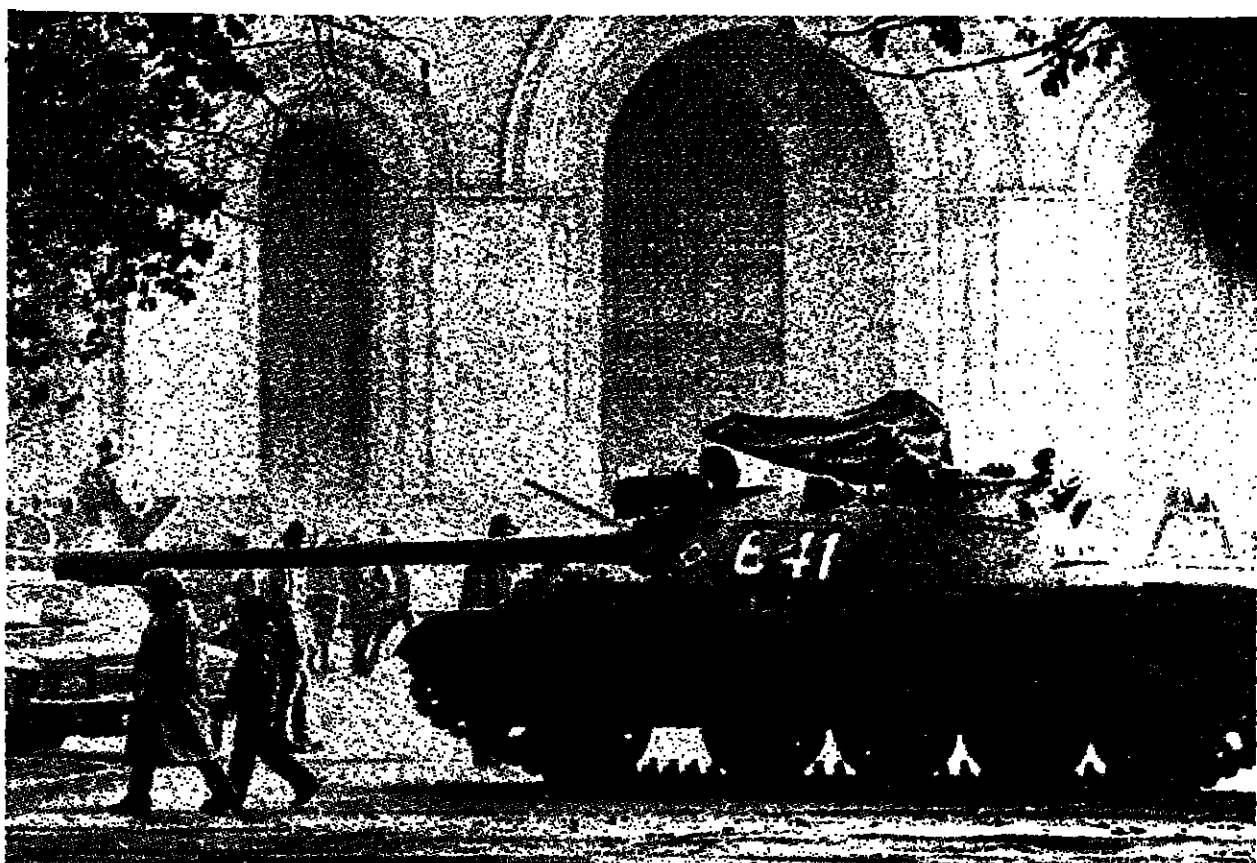
In a departure from previous practice, Dr Chazov said that the medical authorities were also providing psychiatric help for survivors. The minister said that he had insisted on the most stringent measures to prevent infection.

Bodies had to be buried immediately they were recovered, troops had been inoculated, and the emergency water supplies that had been fixed up were regularly monitored. But Dr Chazov denied reports that helicopters were spraying the ruined towns with disinfectant and also discounted rumours that typhus had broken out.

He confirmed that no survivors were taken to hospital in the neighbouring republic of Azerbaijan, nor had its medical teams been invited to take part in the rescue, despite offers from them.

Christian Armenia and predominantly Muslim Azerbaijan are locked in conflict as the result of a flare-up of an old dispute over the territory of Nagorno-Karabakh.

Dr Chazov declined to give any firm figure on the final death toll, saying it was still far too early to be certain.



A Soviet tank yesterday in Yerevan, the Armenian capital, enforcing the state of emergency after last month's ethnic unrest.

Overnight curfew imposed in Armenia

From Our Own Correspondent Moscow

As an indication of the continuing tension in the Armenian capital of Yerevan, the Soviet Army newspaper *Krasnaya Zvezda* yesterday published an hour-by-hour account of the mass demonstration on Sunday which was broken up by troops.

It has also emerged that a state of emergency tantamount to martial law is in force in many regions of Armenia and Azerbaijan, and that the whole of Armenia is subject to a five-hour overnight curfew.

Krasnaya Zvezda said last weekend's trouble in Yerevan began on Saturday, when a large crowd gathered outside the

Writers' Union building. Police and troops found that an illegal meeting of the outlawed Karabakh Committee, the unofficial group set up to spearhead Armenia's demands for the transfer of Nagorno-Karabakh from Azerbaijan, was in progress.

By 7pm there were about a thousand people there, many shouting protests against the Soviet Government and the Army. Leaflets were distributed and petitions passed round.

According to the newspaper, the petitions called for an end to all official talk about "fraternal co-operation and internationalism" from Azerbaijan - a reference to the republic's official offer to help the earthquake relief effort.

Seven members of the Karabakh

committee were detained. One, Mr Ashot Manucharyan, was released after pleading immunity to prosecution because he is an elected member of the Supreme Soviet.

As troops were breaking up that crowd, some 2,000 people attempted to march from the Writers' Union building. The square was surrounded by troops and the march broken up by force. Unofficial reports say troops used batons and shots were fired.

Riga meeting: A meeting was held at the weekend in Riga, capital of the Baltic republic of Latvia, to establish a "forum of the peoples of Latvia". The aims of the forum are said to be to further co-operation between the different nationalities and foster cultural activity.

Japan slow to respond in disaster relief effort

From Joe Joseph Tokyo

Why does Japan take so long to act when disaster strikes abroad?

As foreign rescue teams helped to dig bodies from the wreckage of the Armenian earthquake and other rescue workers unloaded blankets and medicines from all over the world, Japan was still deciding how much to send and when to send it.

While Britain swiftly pledged £5 million, Japan's immediate response was a donation of £45,000 through the Japan Red Cross.

Days after other countries had begun to send relief supplies and rescue teams Japan was organizing a reconnaissance team.

By Tuesday the Japanese had finally found a commercial Aeroflot flight with cargo space available. Blankets, electric generators and medicines were sent to Armenia. Another batch will leave today. On Tuesday the Cabinet also decided to raise its contribution to 1.1 billion yen, which almost exactly matched Britain's initial £5 million.

But Japan's critics are baffled by the country's slow response. Japan protests that it merely operates in a different way. "The Government of Japan needs an official request from the Soviet Union before it gives aid," a Foreign Ministry spokesman said.

Japan also resists using military aircraft to carry aid supplies. It feels that would contravene its Constitution, which restricts the use of military planes outside Japan.

Sri Lanka election

Extremists vow to disrupt poll with further violence

From Edward Gorman, Colombo

The leader of the Sinhalese extremist Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna (People's Liberation Front) said last night that he would not accept the results of Monday's presidential election and warned that his campaign of violence would continue.

In a handwritten two-page letter delivered to the offices of the Commissioner of Elections, Mr Chandananda de Silva, the JVP leader described the elections as illegal and undemocratic.

"We appeal to you to join with us by not participating in this fraud," Mr Rohana Wijeweera, in hiding since 1983, told the Commissioner. "You should reveal to the public this treacherous and anti-nation act."

In an apparent threat to Mr De Silva, he continued: "If you do not do this, you will become part of the conspiracy ... and history will judge you on this. Do not allow it to happen."

The JVP has been fighting to prevent the elections taking place and to overthrow the Government. Its campaign of assassinating supporters of the ruling United National Party has claimed more than 700 lives since July last year.

Mr Wijeweera's letter came the day after a raid on Colombo's top-security Welikade jail in which 221 prisoners escaped. Earlier reports suggested that 30 prisoners had managed to break out.

Three people are believed to have died in the raid and eight others were injured, but police have captured only one escapee.

Sources here say that many were senior members of the underground movement and included several provincial commanders.

The raid, thought to have begun when the prisoners detonated smuggled-in explosives, is the latest in a series which have freed hundreds of suspected JVP activists. It is being seen as particularly embarrassing for the Government, which has cracked down hard on the movement in recent weeks, arresting thousands of young men in a bid to restore order in the run-up to the elections.

Despite continuing rumours of a last-minute postponement, the chairman of the United National Party said in a hastily arranged news conference yesterday that he was confident the polls would go ahead.

"We are not for postponement because we are confident of victory and we are confident the Election Commissioner can carry out elections even with the difficulties," the party chairman, Mr Ranjan Wijeratna, said.

He added that he believed the armed forces were fully in control and capable of giving "adequate protection" to voters at polling stations.

Palme death arrest

Stockholm - Police have arrested a Swede with a history of psychiatric illness and a previous conviction for manslaughter on suspicion of murdering Olof Palme, the Prime Minister, nearly three years ago (Christopher Mossey writes).

The man, aged 41, and unemployed, who has yet to be charged or named, admitted being in a restaurant near the spot in central Stockholm where Palme was killed by a single bullet through the back of the neck on February 28, 1986. There have been several previous arrests but no charges have been brought.

Bus tragedy

Johannesburg (Reuters) - All 18 occupants of a minibus, one of the so-called "black taxis" run to supplement sparse bus services, were killed when it collided head-on with a bus in the Orange Free State province.

Visa appeals

Bonn - East German visitors and emigrants will be able, from next year, to appeal to the courts if their applications to travel to the West are refused, new regulations say.

Briton killed

Gibraltar - Spanish police are investigating an incident in which Eric Jansz, a London-born Briton aged 75, was found stabbed to death here.

Plane crash

Cairo (Reuters) - A Nigerian transport aircraft has crashed on a village in Upper Egypt killing all eight members of the crew and, some reports said, five villagers.

Kenya murder

Nairobi - Kevin Fynes, a British teacher found dead at his flat in Mombasa, is believed by the Kenya police to have been the victim of robbers. Much of his property was missing.

Iran relents

Nicosia (Reuters) - Iran has announced it will permit approved political parties to operate but warned would-be politicians to learn from the "bitter experiences" of the country's past.

Dali recovers

Barcelona (Reuters) - The painter, Salvador Dali, aged 84, who almost died two weeks ago, was discharged from hospital and returned to his surrealist art gallery.

Children held

Sidon (Reuters) - A school bus driver armed with a machine gun held 50 children hostage for an hour to protest against being sacked.

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ALL AROUND THE HOME

Signs of new rift among Afghan rebels

From Anatol Lievev, Peshawar

With the deadline for the final Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan only nine weeks away and a second round of Soviet-Mujahidin talks imminent, there is evidence of renewed splits within the Afghan Resistance Alliance.

Several leaders of the seven-party grouping are still away from their bases after the first talks with Soviet representatives at Taif in Saudi Arabia eight days ago. But observers think their absence may be connected with the speeding up of moves towards the formation of an interim Afghan representative body.

Two of the Mujahidin parties, the Hezb-i Islami of Maulavi Younis Khalis, and the Ittehad-i Islami of Professor Abdur Rasul Sayyaf, have rejected the principle of talks with Moscow before the Soviet withdrawal.

Mr Khalis's statements suggest his stand may be softening, and that when the representatives from Taif return to Peshawar, all the leaders may be able to agree to take part in more talks.

Another party generally considered to be radical or fundamentalist, the Hezb-i Islami faction of Mr Gulbudin Hekmatyar, supports the talks. Mr Hekmatyar has argued that direct talks with the Soviet Union are a long-standing Mujahidin demand, and they therefore represent a victory for the resistance.

But Mr Hekmatyar, in common with all the other leaders,

has rejected President Gorbachev's latest proposals for a ceasefire and an international peacekeeping force. He said this was "intended to achieve for the Soviets all those goals which they could not achieve in their past 10 years of imposed war".

The actual strength of the rebel parties on the ground, both inside Afghanistan and in the refugee camps, may soon be of crucial importance.

The deadline for the withdrawal is only nine weeks away, and the second round of talks between Soviet representatives and the Mujahidin is supposed to be held in Pakistan within two weeks.

The parties are coming under pressure from Afghan exiles — and, if only indirectly, from the US — to move as quickly as possible towards setting up an interim representative council, since a full Shura (elected body representing all the Afghan people) clearly cannot be called in the middle of winter and a war.

The seven parties agree on the need for such a body, but not on how it should be chosen. The "moderate" National Islamic Front of Afghanistan, led by Pir Ahmad Gailani, believes in elections from the refugee camps under international supervision, with representatives from within Afghanistan chosen by local commanders. Mr Hekmatyar says he is also in favour of elections. He is said to be confident of



An Afghan rebel, injured by a booby trap, travelling to the Pakistan border for treatment. Mr Khalis's Hezb-i Islami, in contrast, opposes direct elections as un-Islamic. It advocates instead representation by "educated Muslims who have the trust of

the people" — selected, presumably, by local notables. Given these divisions, and especially in view of the imminence of the next Soviet-Mujahidin talks, the absence abroad of so many of the rebel leaders is considered baffling by most Western observers. It seems to cause little concern to many of the Mujahidin. Moves towards a united resistance front seem impossible until they return.

Of the delegation at Taif, Professor Buchannuddin Rabbani, of the Jamiyat-i Islami, is said to be still in Saudi Arabia, and the whereabouts of Dr Sibghatullah Mojaddidi of the Afghan National Liberation Front, and of Mr Karyab of the Hezb-i Islami Hekmatyar faction are not known. Their absence is causing suspicion in the other parties.

Meanwhile, disquiet has been caused by some rebel sources who believe that something resembling a massacre of Kabul government troops from Torikham took place on the Pakistan border between Jalalabad and Peshawar after the garrison fell to the Mujahidin last month for the first time.

About 70 men are supposed to have died at the hands of fighters from Mr Khalis's Hezb-i Islami. An official of one of the smaller parties said: "If true, this would be very disastrous."

The allegations — emanating originally from Kabul — have been denied by a Hezb-i Islami representative.

West's silence on conference plea dismays Russians

From Andrew McEwen, Diplomatic Correspondent

Two months from today, Soviet troops are due to complete their withdrawal from Afghanistan, leaving the Kabul Government to face two large alliances of Muslim guerrilla movements, based in Pakistan and Iran and both determined to overthrow it.

With time running out, Soviet officials are showing concern bordering on desperation to find a way of persuading the West to help them withdraw with dignity, leaving a broad-based government.

They have been dismayed by the West's lack of interest in a proposal made by President Gorbachev in his speech at the United Nations a week ago for an international conference on Afghanistan.

The proposal was overshadowed by his announcement that Moscow will reduce unilaterally its military forces. But it is now clear that his intention, in making it the sole regional problem mentioned in his speech, was to focus Western attention on it. Instead he has been met by silence.

Most Western diplomats feel that the conference would be little more than a second attempt to persuade the West to cut off military supplies to the Mujahidin, which the Geneva Accords failed to do.

Moscow had been following a "two-track" approach with

two sets of parallel negotiations. While trying to cajole the West to help it, it has appointed Mr Yuli Voronov, one of its most experienced arms control negotiators, to talk directly to the guerrillas.

Soviet sources said Mr Voronov had completed initial talks held in Saudi Arabia with the guerrillas, but refused to give details.

Western observers believe that the Mujahidin will have maintained their refusal to participate in a broad-based government unless the present Kabul leadership is removed, something which Moscow may be contemplating.

It was confirmed yesterday that there have been more high-level talks between the Afghan Government, which was not involved in the talks in Saudi Arabia, and Moscow. Mr Voronov briefed President Najibullah, while Mr Eduard Shevardnadze, the Soviet Foreign Minister, held talks with his Afghan counterpart, Mr Abdul Wali.

President Gorbachev reaffirmed at the UN his determination to meet the February 15 withdrawal date. But Soviet officials, speaking personally, say they do not see how this can be achieved unless the West is persuaded.

Japan curbs extremists

Fears mount over right-wing antics

From Joe Joseph, Tokyo

Japan's small but noisy extreme right-wing factions are on the warpath again, this time over a mayor who suggested that Emperor Hirohito bore some responsibility for Japan's role in the Second World War.

Mr Hitoshi Motoshima, Mayor of Nagasaki, the first local government head to express publicly such an opinion, is under police protection after extremist threats.

The Government has just passed a law banning right-wingers from driving their military-looking vans along Tokyo's streets and broadcasting anti-left slogans.

Despite official denials, it is believed that the Government rushed the Bill through Parliament to avoid embarrassing Mr Eduard Shevardnadze, the Soviet Foreign Minister, who visits Tokyo this weekend.

The Soviet Embassy in Tokyo has been one of the main targets of the right-wingers' hooters and their blaring martial music. But the extreme nationalists — who number just 120,000, according to Japan's National Police Agency — do not always stop at making a nuisance of themselves. Sometimes they kill people.

In May last year Mr Tomohiro Kojiro, a reporter in the Osaka bureau of the Asahi Shimbun, Japan's leading daily newspaper, was killed when a right-wing extremist marched into his office and began firing a shotgun. The newspaper's crime was to write critically about the Yasukuni shrine, a memorial to Japan's war dead.

Ironically the extremists' trucks had already fallen silent, before the Government officially banned their hectoring, out of respect for Emperor Hirohito, who has been critically ill in the Imperial Palace in Tokyo since September.

They must have been grateful for the opportunity to strike up the band in Nagasaki, out of Tokyo's earshot.

The Mayor of Nagasaki, who now has to tolerate chants of "God punish Motoshima" from the trucks parked outside his municipal offices, says: "I have never felt in such danger. There are threats hinting that they will harm my family or grandchildren."

Although nobody will admit it, rumours suggest that the mood of solemnity that has hushed Japan since the Emperor fell ill — politicians have cancelled fund-raising parties, companies have cancelled ostentatious year-end celebrations, weddings have been postponed — owes much to the fear of reprisals by the right.



Mr Motoshima: Dared to query Emperor's war role. Nobody knows who is next on the list.

In August shots were fired at the house of Mr Hiromasa Ezoe, the former chairman of Recruit, an information and property company at the hub of a share-profiteering scandal. A right-wing group claimed responsibility.

Mr Ezoe has been in hospital ever since, even though there appears to be little wrong with him when dinner appointments demand an evening's leave.

Rumours suggest that at least part of the reason he stays in hospital is fear of attacks from right-wingers who claim that he has somehow betrayed Japan.

Italy gets tough on illegal immigrants

From Roger Boyes, Rome

Italy has introduced a new, tough policy towards immigrants by turning back a boat crammed to the gunwales with Algerians and Senegalese, one of many clandestine parties of workers destined for the underground economy.

The move marks the first, controversial step towards regulating the flow of Third World immigrants into Europe, and reflects a general tightening of border controls in the run-up to the Single European Market in 1992.

The motor boat Caraccioli, which embarked at Tunis, had been at sea for a week. It had intended to dock at Trapani in Sicily, but was stopped by Italian border police, recently placed on a high level of alert.

Between 1,000 and 1,500 illegal immigrants arrive in Sicily on the Tunis ferry each week. Others dock at Genoa.

A maritime police officer in Sicily said yesterday: "They have been coming here for more than 15 years. But before it was mainly Tunisians, 200 or 300 a week. For the past year it has been five times that number — Algerians, Turks

and Africans. So now we have permission to tighten up, especially on the Senegalese."

The decision to increase immigration controls results from an agreement between West Germany, France and the Benelux countries to close their borders before 1992.

The accord makes visas obligatory for people from certain "high-risk" emigration countries and provides for fairly drastic follow-up action. Carriers, for example, will be obliged to take passengers back if their travel documents are not in order.

The clampdown is an uncomfortable step for most Italians, despite a sharp increase in racist incidents in the past year which seems to reflect growing tension between immigrants and locals.

Italy has always been liberal in its immigration policies and border controls have been lax. More than 100,000 new immigrant workers were given legal status in the past two years, and there are several hundreds of thousands working illegally, quietly tolerated by the police.

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González defies left and rules out early elections

Spain brought to a standstill as police clash with strikers

From Harry Debelius, Madrid
Union leaders brought Spain to a standstill yesterday in the country's first general strike for 54 years...



Running the gamut: A department store employee, aided by struggling riot police, fighting her way through a picket line as one of the few people to go to work in Madrid yesterday.

Running the gamut: A department store employee, aided by struggling riot police, fighting her way through a picket line as one of the few people to go to work in Madrid yesterday.

Hanoi withdraws more troops

Khmer Rouge still casts shadow over Cambodia

From Humphrey Hawksley, Ho Chi Minh City
Vietnam, devastated by more than four decades of war and economically isolated from the West, is this week showing an acceptable public face and withdrawing thousands of troops from neighbouring Cambodia...



Pol Pot: Remains dominant in Khmer Rouge leadership.

Zimbabwe journal defies minister to expose corruption

From Jan Raath, Harare
A small Zimbabwean provincial newspaper, a national cause célèbre for its independent investigations into government corruption, yesterday defied the threats of a senior Cabinet minister...

Exclusive to Dixons - Unbeatable Minolta Autofocus Zoom Scoop!

Advertisement for various camera models including CHINON GENESIS, MINOLTA DYNAX 3000i, and PENTAX SF7 ZOOM, listing prices and features.

Large advertisement for the MINOLTA 5000 Autofocus SLR with 35-70mm Zoom Lens, featuring a large image of the camera and promotional pricing.

Lange dismisses his Finance Minister

From Richard Long, Wellington
Mr David Lange, the New Zealand Prime Minister, yesterday dismissed his Finance Minister, Mr Roger Douglas...

Dixons Christmas Extra advertisement featuring a large 'Dixons' logo and a list of offers including a 360 High St. Branches Nationwide offer.

Advertisement for Minolta camera accessories, including a 'Complete your Minolta Outfit' package with a Sigma telephoto lens and a Miranda flashgun.

December 14 1988

PARLIAMENT

Ryan extradition refusal offensive, House is told

The reasons given by the Irish Government for not extraditing Father Patrick Ryan on terrorism charges were offensive, Sir Patrick Mayhew, Attorney General, told MPs.

In response to renewed allegations from the Opposition of incoherence and hectoring words from the Prime Minister on the issue, Sir Patrick said, to Conservative cheers, that Mrs Thatcher was expressing a feeling widely held in the country.

After Sir Patrick's statement, Mr John Fraser, an Opposition spokesman on legal affairs, at whose request it had been made, said: One could do without public incoherence and hectoring words, particularly those of the Prime Minister.

It is not much better that, pre-trial processes are not conducted under the arc lights but are dealt with, as they would be in this country, quietly and without publicity?

Matters had not been helped by trial by newspaper, which had been fed by the outbursts of the Prime Minister.

Matters were not helped, also, by press briefings by the Crown Prosecution Service, all of which raises the problem of prejudice of a jury.

Sir Patrick said that there was inherent controversy in the procedure of the Irish Attorney General coming to conclusions on what were matters of English law.

It would reject the suggestion that anything the Prime Minister said would cause any prejudice to proceedings. She was entitled to say what she did and was expressing a feeling widely felt throughout the country.

The Irish Attorney General had said in his statement and in a later letter that he believed that prejudice had been taken up by matters which had been published.

"I have made clear in my reply that I am confident that if and when Patrick Ryan came to trial on this country, there is no significant reason that any publication of any material

RYAN CASE

would have a detrimental effect on the ability of a jury to give the fair trial that is required in this country.

"Good sense is needed to try to get successful extradition arrangements established.

Mr Ivan Lawrence (Burton, C) said that they would be left with two questions when their anger had died down: how determined was the Irish Government to root out terrorism and how would this absurd gesture improve the prospects for the Anglo-Irish agreement (Conservative cheers)?

Sir Patrick said that the Prime Minister had made clear that the Government wished the Anglo-Irish agreement to continue.

"I prefer to take at face value expressions of intent by the Irish Government, including the Irish Attorney General, that it is their desire to take really effective steps against terrorism.

"But I have to observe that yesterday's decision is an obstacle rather than anything that facilitates a really firm attack upon the terrorism that concerns us all."

Mr Merlyn Rees (Leeds South and Morley, Lab), a former Northern Ireland Secretary, said that there had been a tragedy of errors on both sides of the Irish Sea, reinforcing attitudes about each side's justice, which had gone on for 500 years.

Would it not be better to stop posturing on all sides and use the Criminal Law (Jurisdiction) Act? It was there to give the Irish a chance to bring this man to trial.

The Attorney should discuss the problem of witnesses and their safety in Dublin and give them a chance to bring this man to trial.

"We may get hot under the collar one way or another, but people on both sides of the border and particularly in the North who have suffered violence over 20 years, are not amused by our attitude. They want something done about men of violence and the legislation is there to be used."

Sir Patrick said that it would be a tragedy if anybody, in the words of the Irish Attorney, sought to be charged with very serious offences, were not brought to trial.

But it was not quite as simple as that. He had to have regard to considerations of the safety of witnesses.

Mr Robert Maclellan, Democrat spokesman on home affairs, said that there were many who would not accept the Irish Attorney General's view that a fair trial is not possible in this country, but who none the less regretted the participation of MPs and, particularly the Prime Minister in a hue and cry during the time the Irish Attorney General was considering the matter.

Sir Patrick: I reject any assertion that the Prime Minister took part in or led a hue and cry.

Mr Eric Heffer (Liverpool, Walton, Lab) said that the Irish Attorney General's statement was moderate. He could not accept that anyone was guilty until they had been found guilty.

There had been statements in the House that this gentleman was a terrorist before he had been brought before the courts.

Was not the Irish Attorney General correct in saying "how could anyone who is of Irish origin get a fair trial in this country?"

Sir Patrick: He is right in saying that it is fundamental to our system of law that everyone is presumed innocent until they are found guilty.

The statement by the Irish Attorney General supposes that a jury in the case of Patrick Ryan would not abide by that fundamental principle.

Mr Peter Archer (Warley West, Lab) said that the Irish Attorney General had put cast doubt on the fairness of United Kingdom courts. But, because of comments from official sources and the Prime Minister, no jury, no matter how fair, could be expected to approach this with an open mind.

Sir Patrick agreed that doubt had not been cast on the system. The Irish Attorney General had not referred to the Prime Minister.



Mr Merlyn Rees (left) and Sir Patrick Mayhew, who disagreed in the House over the question of the safety of witnesses

Juries in Britain behave fairly, Attorney General insists

In his statement, Sir Patrick Mayhew Attorney General, said that yesterday Mr John Murray, the Irish Attorney General, announced that he had on the previous day advised the Commissioner of the Garda Síochána not to endorse warrants for execution and that in respect of the charges in two of the warrants he had formed the opinion that there was, on the part of the relevant prosecuting authority, a clear intention to prosecute and that such intention was founded on the existence of sufficient evidence.

These were the requirements specified in the Irish Extradition (Amendment) Act, 1987. In relation to the charges in the other two warrants, Mr Murray had not found it necessary to reach any final conclusion because he had concluded that were Patrick Ryan to be extradited to Britain "it would not be possible for a jury to approach the issue of his guilt or innocence free from bias". That was by reason of what he described as the "extreme nature and content of the prejudicial material published".

Mr Murray had said: "The charges which have been brought against Patrick Ryan are of a most serious kind and they should be investigated by a court. The Criminal Law (Jurisdiction) Act, 1976, provides a means whereby certain serious offences committed outside this jurisdiction may be tried here. Such a trial may, under Irish law, take place before a court of three judges without a jury. Heavy penalties are prescribed by Irish law for those offences."

Mr Murray had told him personally of his decision a few hours earlier.

"For my part, I find this outcome extremely disappointing (Conservative cheers), and the reasons given for it regrettable (renewed cheers). The reason is also singularly surprising since speculation about the fairness of any resulting trial by a jury in England is not one of the functions which the Irish Attorney is directed by this very recent Act to undertake.

"I readily acknowledge that the question is one for Irish and not English law, but I also note the doubts in this regard expressed today in leading articles in *The Irish Times* and *Irish Independent*."

Yesterday morning he had informed Mr Murray that "I rejected his thesis that Patrick Ryan would be denied a fair trial."

"Juries in England are invariably instructed that they must decide the case only on the evidence they have heard and seen in the trial. In every appropriate case, that is to say cases of any notoriety, they are directed to disregard whatever they may have heard or seen elsewhere."

"In my experience juries heed these directions scrupulously, with the fairness one expects in the ordinary men and women of our country (Conservative cheers)."

"Whatever may have been published anywhere — and Mr Murray had before yesterday at no time raised with me any anxiety about any publication — I am entirely confident that if, and when, Patrick Ryan were to come to trial in England, there would be no significant risk that such publicity would affect a jury's ability or will to try him fairly."

"As to the possible trial of Patrick Ryan in the Republic of Ireland, as the Prime Minister said yesterday, we do not absolutely exclude that, but only two of the four charges seem to be covered by the Criminal Law (Jurisdiction) Act. Additionally, there would be grave anxieties over the security of witnesses, whom we could not compel to go to the republic; and if the case accordingly failed for insufficiency of evidence, we could not subsequently try Patrick Ryan in our own jurisdiction."

"These are major disadvantages inherent in an option which we had every right not to prefer to that of extradition."

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S Africa whites 'risk suicide'

South Africa's three million white people needed to be convinced that they were sitting on a time bomb which could explode at any moment, Lord Goodman (Ind) said during a debate on southern Africa in the Lords.

It required a masterly approach to influence that tiny, silly constituency that they are committing suicide, he said.

Lord Goodman, who had recently visited South Africa as vice-chairman of the British Council, said that more than 30 million people there were condemned to a life of degradation, shame and deprivation, because three million people required it.

Most of that minority were not wicked; they were just complacent, blind and terrified.

\$100m grant for Nigeria

The UK is to make available a grant of \$100 million (£53 million) to Nigeria in 1989, subject to approval by the International Monetary Fund of a standby agreement and contributions from other donors.

Sir Geoffrey Howe, Foreign Secretary, announcing the grant in a written answer, said that it demonstrated the UK's interest in the health of the Nigerian economy and its willingness to assist the Nigerian adjustment programme.

Immigration controls

The British Government intends next spring to introduce a single immigration channel for all EEC citizens, including Britons, entering the country, Mr Douglas Hurd, Home Secretary, said in a written reply.

"The aim of the change is to reduce, as far as possible, the levels of checks on EEC nationals entering the United Kingdom without disturbing our ability to maintain adequate controls on nationals of third countries."

Salmonella test plan

The Government is considering measures requiring processing plants making chicken feed to test each batch of production for salmonella, and to make the results available to the Ministry of Agriculture, Mr Richard Ryder, Parliamentary Secretary for Agriculture, said in a written reply.

Parking for disabled

There were about 840,000 holders of orange badges giving vehicle-parking privileges for disabled people in March last year, more than 14 per cent increase on the same time a year earlier, Mr Peter Bottomley, Under Secretary of State for Transport, said in a written reply.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Questions: Home Office; Prime Minister; Security Service Bill, second reading. Lords (3): Road Traffic Bill, second reading. Debate on EEC package travel.

Correction

London Underground's investment in the current financial year is 60 per cent more in real terms than in 1984-85, not 6 per cent, as Lord Brabazon of Tara, (Under Secretary of State for Transport) was reported as saying in Monday's debate.

Unleaded petrol praised

The two million motorists driving cars that could take unleaded petrol should be aware of the contribution they could make to reducing pollution by changing to the new fuel, Mrs Virginia Bottomley, Under Secretary of State for the Environment, said during Commons questions.

"The number of petrol stations selling unleaded petrol is increasing rapidly. By the end of this year it is expected that one in four refuellings will take place at a petrol station at which unleaded petrol is available."

"Further measures to promote the use of unleaded petrol are co-ordinated by the Unleaded Petrol Group."

'Vote Labour and pay'

The community charge in Conservative-controlled local authorities this year would have been £196.40 and in Labour-controlled authorities, £294.40, Mr John Gummer, Minister for Local Government, said during questions.

He was responding to Mr Antony Marlow (Northampton North, C), who said: He is a fair man and a Christian and should make voters aware that the cost of voting Labour at the next local election could be £100 a vote.

Mr Gummer had said that he would make every effort to inform voters that profligate spending by local authorities would lead to high community charges.

Mr Christopher Mullin (Sunderland South, Lab): Has been recent reports that poll the Almighty for (laughter).

POLL TAX

tax will result in the transfer of about £800 million from the North to the South. Can he, as a Christian, say how it can be justified to take it from the poorer parts of the country and transfer it to the richer?

Mr Gummer: He is mistaken in his reports. The business rate will transfer nearly £900 million from South to North.

Mr Patrick Cormack (South Staffordshire, C): Will he ensure that no expenditure on protecting egg farmers is counted as profligacy?

Mr Gummer (a former Minister of State for Agriculture): Sometimes when one is moved from one department to another, one has much to thank

POLLUTION

2,000 substances which were most damaging to the waterways and was moving towards ending incineration and dumping at sea as well as participating in the scientific task force.

The allegation was made by Mr Allan Roberts, an Opposition environment spokesman, after the minister had said that about 20 per cent of pollution in the North Sea came from Britain's rivers and estuaries.

There was a clear contrast between that figure and the 50 per cent of contaminants borne from rivers at the sea's eastern end.

Britain was bringing forward a clear plan of action. It had brought forward the "red list" of

Minister one of the great poisoners, says MP

Irish sea, and that was left out of the question.

This was the only country dumping massive amounts of sewage sludge into the North Sea. Thirty per cent of Britain's poisonous sewage sludge was dumped there. "This minister will go down in history as one of Britain's great poisoners."

Mr Bottomley said that Mr Roberts's question was an example of air pollution. The Conservative Party believed in action not words, action based on sound scientific evidence.

Sewage sludge was what remained after the treatment of sewage. One had to find the best practicable environmental option.

POWER

allowed the debt to be converted to equity but no decision had been taken on that yet.

Mr Donald Dewar, chief Opposition spokesman on Scotland, said that the electricity industry in Scotland had been efficient, well managed and successful in recent years.

There might be some marginal advantage in privatization for the large industrial consumer but for all others and particularly the domestic consumer the talk of comparative competition would be an empty and rather cruel nonsense.

What could a domestic consumer, unsatisfied with the service of his supply company in pence, do about it? Nothing, except continue to take their electricity.

The Opposition was looking at the Bill with growing gloom. While it was attractive to the Treasury and to the greater glory of the Secretary of State for Energy (Mr Cecil Parkinson), and maybe even a few shareholders looking for a quick profit, there was nothing in it for the ordinary consumer and nothing for the nation.

Advertisement for Orient Express featuring a romantic offer for lovers of luxury, with an image of a train and the Orient Express logo.

Electricity Bill wins second reading

The following report of the second reading debate in the Commons on the Electricity Bill appears in later editions yesterday.

The Government's key privatization measure, the Electricity Bill, was read a second time by 304 votes to 238 — Government majority, 66.

The Commons also rejected by 316 to 239 a Scottish National Party amendment, rejecting second reading because the Bill failed to introduce effective competition, particularly in Scotland.

Resuming debate on second

POWER

reading, Mr Malcolm Rifkind, Secretary of State for Scotland, said that there could not be perfect competition in the electricity generation and supply industries, but he rejected what he said was the Labour argument: if there was not perfect competition, monopoly was preferable. Such a proposition was not in the national interest.

He said that there was double the necessary generating capacity in Scotland. That showed that state control was not the route to a rational distribution

of generating capacity. Such mis-matches were inevitable as long as there was political interference. The industry must be allowed to take its own investment decisions.

A significant capital restructuring of the industry would be required in Scotland quite different from that in England and Wales. That was a consequence of the over-provision of capacity that had left a high level of debt. The Bill

allowed the debt to be converted to equity but no decision had been taken on that yet.

Mr Donald Dewar, chief Opposition spokesman on Scotland, said that the electricity industry in Scotland had been efficient, well managed and successful in recent years.

There might be some marginal advantage in privatization for the large industrial consumer but for all others and particularly the domestic consumer the talk of comparative competition would be an empty and rather cruel nonsense.

European Parliament by-election: Hampshire Central

Europe is still somewhere across the Channel

By Richard Ford Political Correspondent

Amid the celery from Spain and tomatoes from Holland, and with a beamed Breton onion seller standing by his bike, Mr Edward Kellest-Bowman was having difficulty promoting his vision of Europe.

The Conservatives and two centre-party candidates in today's European Parliament by-election in Hampshire Central insisted that the electorate was intelligent and knowledgeable about the EEC.

Unfortunately, there were few such voters to be found in Alton Market Square. "Sweetheart, this man wants to talk to you," exclaimed Dame Elaine Kellest-Bowman, the Conservative MP for Lancaster and wife of the Hampshire Central Tory candidate.

Before Mr Kellest-Bowman could advance, perhaps a more authentic English view of things European was shouted by a market trader: "You're wasting your time here, darling. It's all beautiful jobs for the boys, ain't it?"

Dame Elaine muttered a pro-

test that Europe was important as she and her husband retreated in search of another well informed voter.

But the woman they found also had more European things on her mind — the spread of estate agents and building societies in the Hampshire market town's main street. Yet another was worried about the rebellious tendencies of his local MP, Mr Michael Bates.

As Labour's agent, Mr Tony Beirne, candidly admitted: "There is a bit more awareness of the European Community, but for the majority of people it's still something which is on the other side of the Channel, not to be worried about."

Campaigning for elections to the European Parliament has always been a uphill struggle. But the five candidates seeking to inherit the seat made vacant by the death of Mr Basil de Ferranti must also contend with a vast constituency and the forthcoming Christmas season.

Sprawling northwards from Southampton, Hampshire Central stretches to the London dominions of Basingstoke and Farnborough, taking in

Eastleigh, Winchester and Aldershot.

With an electorate of 558,000, it contains seven Westminster constituencies held by the Conservatives. Highlighting Labour's decline in the southern shires, at the last general election the SDP-Liberal Alliance came second in five seats with Labour taking runner-up position in the two Southampton constituencies.

The MP acts as a spleen, slicing through the Hampshire countryside and bringing in its high-tech industries attracted by fast links with both London and the docks.

Agriculture remains an important factor of the local economy, but during the past 25 years its importance in employment terms has declined as opportunities opened in lighter industries and the service sector.

Southampton never developed the heavy industrial base of northern ports, but it has a traditional sector of industry including the assembly of Ford transit vans and a tyre factory. A large proportion of the people are employed in defence

related industries, and Basingstoke, once a small market town, has been transformed into the "Dallas of the Downs" because of the glossy imitations of corporate American buildings that house insurance and computer company offices.

Half of the electorate, which has grown by 2.1 per cent since 1984, are considered middle-class, with 64 per cent in service employment and 58 per cent owning their own homes.

Getting to grips with the constituency and achieving publicity has been a big task for the candidates.



Cabinet ministers have come and gone with hardly a mention in the local media. Public meetings have been poorly attended, though old tramps can still pull them in: Barbara Castle attracted more than 100 to a meeting that by common consent was the best of the campaign.

Mr Kellest-Bowman, a business consultant, is Europe's to win the seat held by the Conservative with a majority of 44,821 votes with a 31 per cent turnout in 1984. But such is the apathy, that some predict a turnout at worst in single figures or at best in the high teens.

The Conservatives emphasized the need for Britain to set the European agenda and placed particular emphasis on the opportunities opening with 1992.

Mr Kellest-Bowman said: "It is now no longer a matter of export or die. It is a matter of seizing the opportunity. Many firms already have, but the smaller companies need to be taken to the wall."

While Mr Kellest-Bowman emphasizes the business opportunities, Labour is playing its traditional strength by pointing

to the better benefits available in Europe.

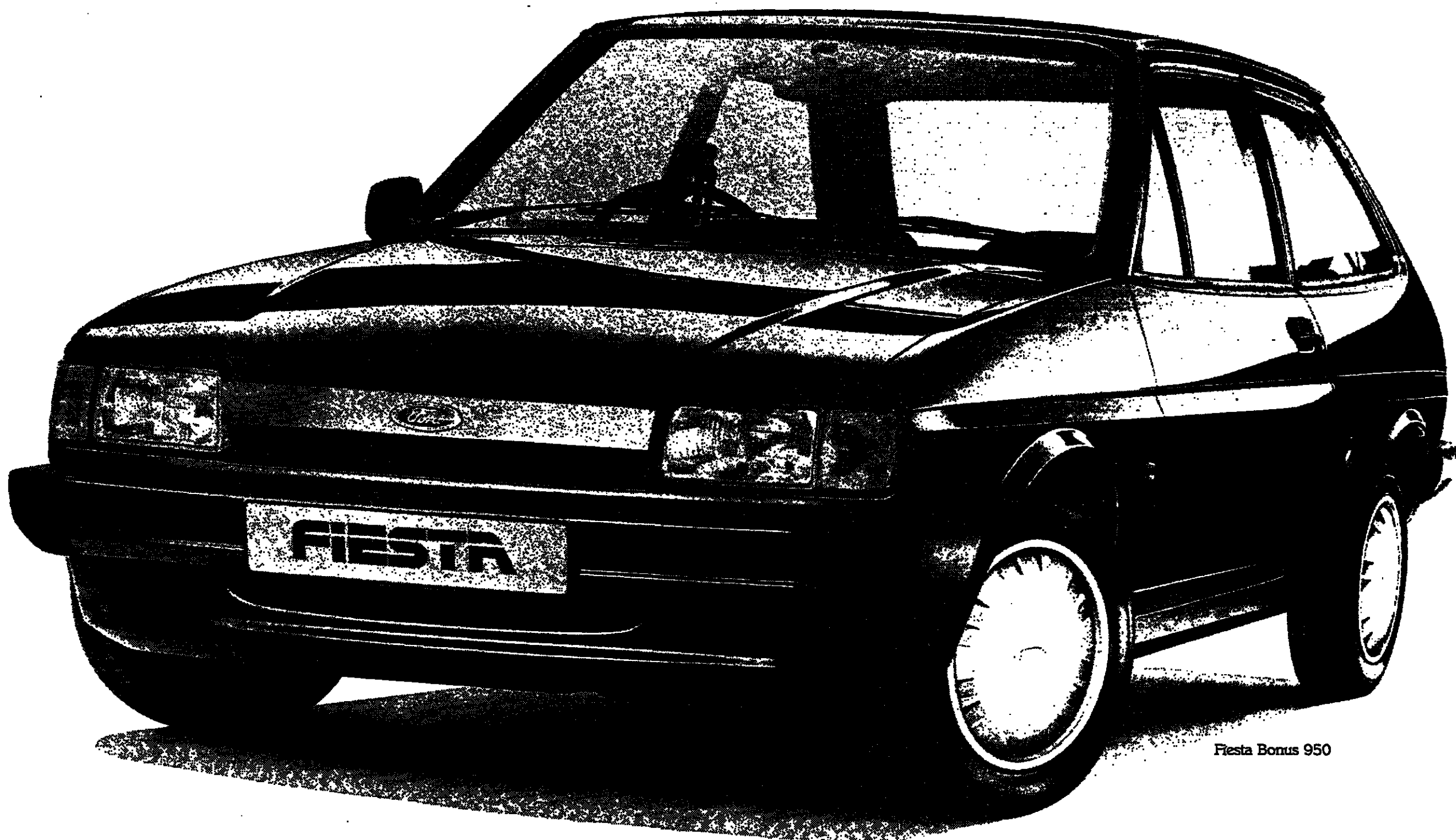
Beaten by 37 votes into third place by the SDP-Liberal Alliance in 1984, Labour's new candidate, Mr John Arnold, is aiming at second place as part of the party's longer-term strategy to rebuild its base in Southern England.

Mr Arnold sees his opportunity in the division between the Democrat and Social Democrat. With a strong base on local councils, the Democrat candidate, Mr David Chidgey, is confident of beating the challenge for the SDP.

The SDP has chosen a candidate with a high profile name but a decidedly low-profile campaigning style. Lord Attlee, son of the late Labour Prime Minister, has the charisma of his father and appears fit for the occasion.

Mrs Sally Penton, the Green Party candidate, is campaigning to raise the party's profile and save her deposit when the votes are finally counted on Monday. 1984 election: B de Ferranti (C), 44,821; F Jacobs (SDP), 39,228; M Castle (Lab), 39,228; C candidate, 44,821.

Large advertisement on the right side of the page, partially obscured by a car image, featuring the letters 'W' and 'i'.



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SPECTRUM

Anne — a very practical princess

THE TIMES PROFILE

THE PRINCESS ROYAL

According to a tale current among senior officers of the British Army of the Rhine, the Princess Royal was recently visiting troops when there was the inevitable bomb scare at the BAOR headquarters at Rheindahlen. "I'm sorry, ma'am," said a brass-hat on the telephone, "we will have to evacuate the building if you wish," retorted the voice of the Colonel-in-Chief of the Royal Corps of Signals, the Royal Scots and the 1420 Huskars, "but I am having a (expletive deleted) bath. I have every intention of finishing it."

Ten years ago the public perception of the Queen's only daughter was of a rude, sulken and intolerant young woman rather fonder of horses than of people. Newspapers had a habit of labelling her "Her Royal Haughtiness", or "Princess Scourps". When she visited the United States with her brother Charles in 1972, a Washington paper reported: "The Prince is full of pep, the Princess acts puffed."

In 1977 a women's magazine polled its readers on who were the most popular members of the Royal Family. The Queen, naturally, led the field (it being her jubilee year), while Anne came second bottom, saved from total disgrace only by the even lower esteem in which the readers held her Aunt Margaret.

Since then there has been a total transformation in the public perception of the Princess Royal. The lady may not have changed greatly, she has, after all, been a tireless president of the Save The Children Fund since 1970. But the outsider's view of her most certainly has, and without benefit of expensive Sanchi image-messaging. The remoulding of the Princess can be traced with some accuracy to November 1982.

Anne was visiting Save the Children projects in East Africa while her husband was pursuing his equestrian career in Australia. The tabloids floated rumours of a marriage rift and, to maintain momentum further, they decided that Anne and Mark would meet for an attempted reconciliation in Africa. When Mark failed to appear, editors back in London began to demand stories, any stories, in return for the hefty

expenses they were being charged by their reptiles in the field.

The royal ratpack was therefore, *faute de mieux*, obliged to follow Anne around the refugee camps in search of something to write about. They were amazed at what they saw. They found a young woman not only quite undeterred by conditions of unspeakable filth and deprivation, but one surprisingly determined and well-informed on the subject of aid to sick and starving children, yet unsentimental and practical in the face of human indignity. Suddenly the headlines spoke of "The Caring Princess".

Those who accompanied her on a Save the Children tour of the Far East last year recall the sight of her in a foul camp outside Bangkok, walking on duckboards across a lake of raw sewage, when a 12-year-old crippled wretch stumbled towards her with his arms outstretched. Briefly, she bent down and hugged him... the brisk, no-nonsense facade is sometimes seen to have its cracks.

In the year that she became president, donations to Save the Children totalled £35 million; last year they reached £35.9 million. If the greatest tug at the public strings of heart and purse was the Ethiopian famine, Anne's 18 years of work to raise the charity's public profile should not be underestimated.

Children will always attract sympathy, patronage and money; criminals not so. That Anne does not only take on glamorous presidencies is evident by her active patronage of the Butler Trust, a charity which gives awards for good work in the prison service. In the last year she has been inside many a jail, including the "Nutcracker Suite", the special unit for particularly hard cases at Barmine, in Glasgow. The rapport between Princess and prisoners was tangible.

Anna Humphrey, the administrator of the trust, says of the Princess: "We invited her to be our patron because she was so down-to-earth. We knew she would care about the subject in a practical sort of way without being soft. Staff and inmates believe in her — they know she understands them. She somehow seems very real, which is unusual in a person in her position. In a word, she has street-cred."



She also enjoys a high degree of saddle-cred, although not as much as her husband, whom three-day eventers regard as akin to a god on horseback. No amount of high birth would have won her a place at the 1976 Montreal Olympics without the attendant skills. Now that she has retired from serious competition, she derives her relaxation from the thrills and dangers of amateur jockeying.

She is not the country's best lady amateur, but a capacity for quick learning under her trainer, David Nicholson, put her sixth out of 130 at the end of this year's flat season. Her greatest ally is temperament, the same sort of unflappable nerve which helped Piggott to nine Derby wins. Many an amateur race has been lost by a sudden rush of blood to the jockey's head. Her Montreal experience made

her an inevitable choice for presidency of the British Olympic Association in 1983 and she has just been returned unopposed for a further four-year term, having become in addition one of Britain's two delegates to the International Olympic Committee.

Colleagues at the BOA say of her: "She is very aware of the needs of competitors, having been one herself. She has an incisive mind, often comes up with good ideas, and is very much aware of current issues." In the wake of the drugs scandals in South Korea earlier this year, she devoted her presidential address to the Olympic association in October to imploring future competitors to make a clean breast to their doctors of doubtful substances they might be swallowing.

Not for her her brother's introspective fretting about the imperfect state of the world. She sees imperfections, but her approach is to go out and do something about them. She is absolutely her father's daughter, and his favourite child. She shares his belief that the Royal Family must be seen to be earning its keep. Last year her total of 367 engagements fulfilled at home and 337 abroad far exceeded that of any other member of "the firm", with the exception of the Queen.

While her elder brother may wish devoutly at times that he had been born someone else, Anne has been more successful at accepting her lot while distancing herself from the royal circus and carving out a life of her own. There is no clearer indication of a determinedly independent mind. She declined all honours and

titles for herself, her husband and her children until, at the age of 37, she finally accepted the traditional title of Princess Royal. She rarely socializes with her brothers or their wives, with whom she has little in common, but at least the Princess of Wales and the Duchess of York have done her the favour of drawing away the spotlight of siller publicity.

She has not been asked to be god-parent to any of the current crop of royal children, and she declined to attend the wedding this summer of her cousin James Ogilvy, son of Princess Alexandra. Acting in the family soap opera is not for her — her decision to go on a rabbit shoot rather than attend the christening of Prince Henry remains legendary. Social life revolves around the gentleman-farming community of Gloucestershire, into which she

BIOGRAPHY

- 1950: Born Clarence House, August 15. Educated at Benenden
- 1970: President, Save The Children
- 1971: Nominated Sportswoman of the Year
- 1973: Married Captain Mark Phillips, two children, Peter Mark Andrew (born 1977) and Zara Anne Elizabeth (born 1981)
- 1978: Montreal Olympics, member of British three-day event team
- 1981: Chancellor, London University
- 1983: President of the British Olympic Association
- 1988: President of the International Equestrian Federation
- 1987: Fellow of the Royal Society. Created Princess Royal
- 1988: Delegate, International Olympic Committee

and her husband slip easily. One of her favourite havens, especially during Mark's long and frequent absences abroad, is the farmhouse kitchen of her in-laws, and she was greatly upset by the death of Mark's mother earlier this year.

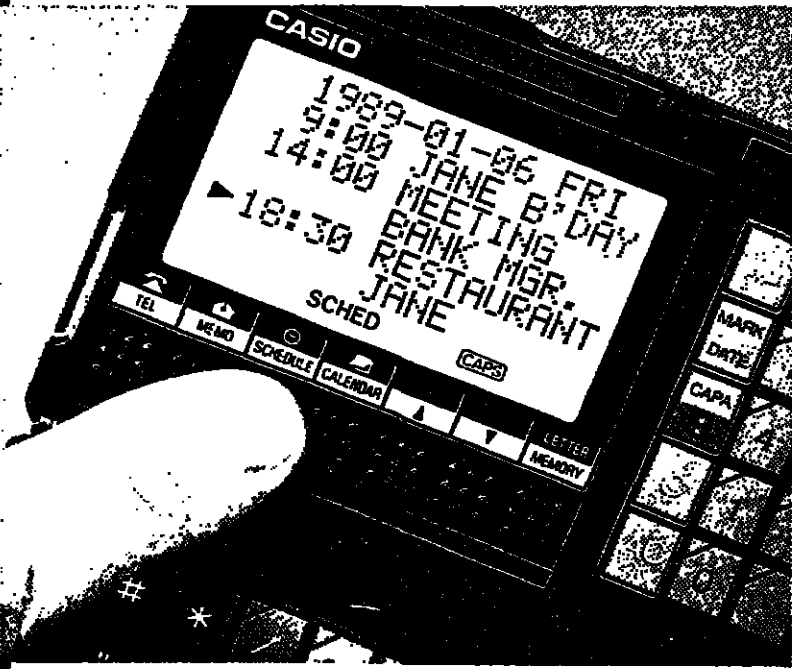
Although she claims not greatly to like children, she has been successful at bringing up her own two — Peter, now aged 11, and Zara, aged seven — in something reasonably close to normal family circumstances, while not shirking from occasionally smacking their bottoms in public view. In the farmhouses of Gloucestershire, she is regarded by the children of her social circle as a brisk but kindly aunt who is happy to make them buttered toasts.

Auberon Waugh once described her as a woman "whose poisonous spittle could stop a camel in its tracks at 20 paces and blind a Press photographer for life at twice the distance". Those more kindly disposed would regard her more as brisk and efficient, with no time for irrelevancies, and a dangerously low flashpoint when her privacy is invaded or her hard work demeaned. In private she is perfectly charming, witty, sharp and solicitous, and much the intellectual superior of her husband.

She is a royal in the old style, perhaps among the last, with a straightforward view that privileged birth must be paid for with work. And yet, behind all her briskness and competence, one can detect the ghost of wifeliness, of some corner of life unfulfilled. Somehow one is reminded that this is the great-granddaughter of Queen Mary. Except, of course, that Queen Mary was never known to utter a four-letter word.

Alan Hamilton

GIVE HIM A PRESENT.



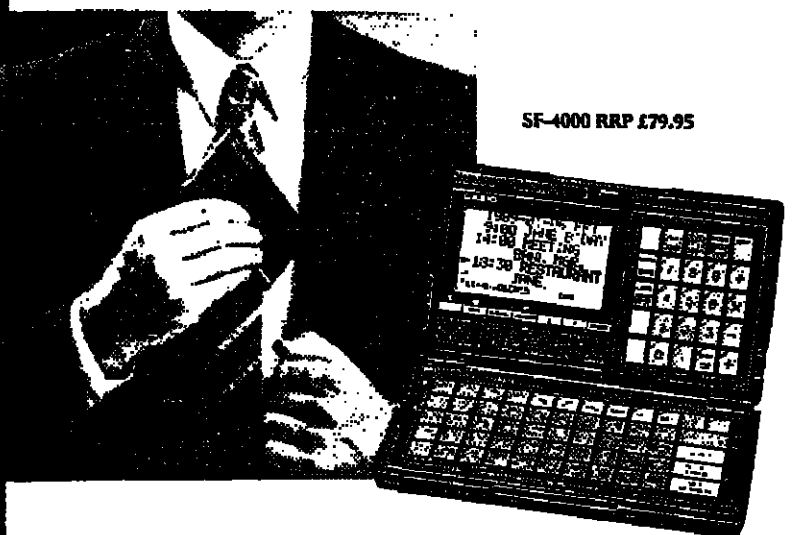
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Ireland's crumbling heritage

If you thought we had problems defining our "heritage" ... spare a thought for the Irish. A national necrosis about the English tongue "means they have a habit of rejecting virtually everything which post-dates the Book of Kells and, as a result, the few stately homes still standing are decrepit.

Early in the last century there were up to 2,000 grand houses in what is now the Republic, all built for the Anglo-Irish nobility. From the 1870s onwards this group began a long-term decline and then, in the 1920s, arson attacks by nationalists reduced the housing stock further. Today, the number of houses which have survived with their family portraits, original furnishings and memorabilia intact is estimated at about 30. Historians believe it might take only one more generation for those to disappear.

Groups such as the Irish Georgian Society and the Irish Architectural Archive are campaigning for conservation of the houses and the Irish government has just set up a heritage commission. But there is a property-owning National Trust similar to that in Scotland and England. Irish exports laws do nothing to slow down the drain of antiques out of the country.

Just opened in Dublin — and scheduled for transfer to London on February 9 — is Vanishing Country Houses of Ireland, an exhibition calling attention to the crisis. Ironically, the sponsors, and the hosts in London, are Christie's who by definition have a professional predatory interest in the houses' contents. Their latest sale of house contents totalled IR£51,928 at Mountstuart, County Meath, last September.

The book accompanying the exhibition includes an entertaining ramble down memory lane by Desmond FitzGerald, the Knight of Glin, one of a few remaining ancient Irish peers and Christie's representative in Ireland. (His "son", Glin Castle, is safely intact.) Recalling the material luxury that was once Anglo-Ireland, (all that crumbled garden statuary, all those windows and beds "draped with the elaborate remains of Empire style curtains"), he also relates endearing tales of

both comedy and drama. In one, his ancestor John Fennell keeps a series of women in cottages despite attempts by the local priest to "curb the oriental proclivities of his aristocratic behaviour". In another, Lady Masekerry so incenses her fellow parishioners by taking her Fekinese to Mass that they burn down her home, Springfield Castle, County Limerick. A Commander Mousell of Turvey is described as spending the 1940s "smoking innumerable cigars" as he "retreated from room to room

as ceilings yielded progressively to the rain". Illustrations are poignant, if picturesque, showing mansions both in their prime and now as shells. Entries give a brief history, ending with words such as "demolished in 1984 ... now a ruin ... destroyed by fire". The most shocking example is Powerscourt, Enniskerry, an outstanding Palladian house which was restored in 1974 and destroyed by fire the day after completion.

Acknowledging that it would be anachronistic to reinstate

the gentry, FitzGerald says that it would be in the interests of Ireland's second biggest industry — tourism — to save a selection of its great homes. He argues the case for government funding, suggesting the State Lottery as a source, and says it should be recognised that, even if the upper classes were "foreign", the craftsmen and the builders were Irish.

But it seems that unless St Patrick intervenes with a miracle (or some Irish Americans do so with money), Ireland is doomed to complete its process of decay. As Kevin Myers, a journalist on the Irish Times says, soon all that will remain will be "the ornaments of the Republic: mock-Georgian Spanish South Fork-type bungalows".

Sarah Jane Checkland



Susan is just like any other 40 year old... but she lives under the shadow of diabetes.

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THE SHADOW OF DIABETES

BRITISH DIABETIC ASSOCIATION

Advertisement for heartening products, featuring a large 'FREE!' and 'WHITING SHOW GUIDE' text, and an image of a fish.

HEALTH

American hospitals have special units for disaster victims. James Bone asks if Britain needs them

When two passenger trains carrying 700 people collided on the Hell Gate bridge in New York City in 1984, the emergency services knew exactly what to do. Rather than ferry all 50 injured people to the nearest hospital, ambulance crews immediately identified the 20 most serious casualties and distributed them, by helicopter, to special units across the city. Within 20 minutes all were receiving intensive treatment, and no hospital had to cope with more than three cases of severe injury. Only one person died.

New York, like several other large American cities, operates a network of trauma centres to deal with seriously injured patients, especially after a disaster. Certain designated hospitals operate special units at which any emergency assistance is available from experienced staff 24 hours a day. Last month a report by the Royal College of Surgeons called for changes in accident and emergency services in Britain, including the establishment of specialized trauma centres.

At St George's hospital, Tooting, where the victims of the Clapham Junction rail crash are being treated in the new accident and emergency department, Don Wijetunge, the senior consultant surgeon in emergency services, said yesterday that the speciality of trauma was neglected in Britain. Although the hospital's disaster plan had worked well, communication was flawed, he said, and emergency services were not as geared up to rapid, efficient responses as they might be. America's trauma centre system was developed after the Vietnam War, where the army developed an effective method of treating seriously wounded soldiers. The first civilian centre was established in Maryland in 1973, and has since been copied in several other Western countries. In Ulster, seven of those injured at Enniskillen were flown by helicopter to specialist units. The system has even been copied by the Soviet army in Afghanistan. The gist of the system is "to get the right patients to the right place at the right time."

"We call it the Golden Hour," says Dr Alexander Kuehl, head of New York's Emergency Medical Service. "If you can get the severely traumatized patient stabilized and into the operating room within the first hour, the survival chances are 75-80 per cent. If you wait until the second hour, the survival rate goes down to about 30 per cent."

New York, with around 8,000 trauma patients a year, boasts the most developed system in America.



The emergency ward: Nurse Clare O'Neill in one of the trauma rooms at Bellevue Hospital, New York City. "I think I can cope with anything now"

Ready for the worst

The ambulance network run by the Emergency Medical Service is closely co-ordinated with the city's patchwork of public, private and church hospitals. The local government has classified 60 of the city's 80 hospitals as fit to receive casualties, and 13 of these operate special trauma centres to which the most serious cases are taken. No New Yorker is ever more than a 20 minute ambulance journey from a trauma centre.

Every ambulance carries two paramedics, who can perform any task short of surgery, or two Emergency Medical Technicians, who can provide basic life support. The system operates on two radio frequencies - one for routine work, one for emergencies.

On arrival, the crew first takes the patient's blood pressure, then conducts a "top to toe" survey. Based on the patient's breathing, circulation and state of consciousness, the crew allots a "trauma score" between 0 and 15. Patients who fall below 8 on the scale have little chance of survival whatever help is given to them, while those over 13 will almost certainly survive. The battle is for the third of patients who

register a trauma score of between 8-13. Ambulance crews throughout the city have instructions to rush such patients to one of the designated trauma centres. They call the work "Scoop and Run."

At Bellevue Hospital, one of the busiest trauma centres in New York, it is obvious that the system is tried and tested. A pristine two-bed trauma room is ready 24 hours a day, fully stocked with instruments for emergency surgery and attended by a five-person team. There are pre-packaged surgical kits so that doctors can open a patient's chest, head or throat immediately on arrival. Patients arrive on a stretcher that has an X-ray machine built in, so they need not be moved.

"If I were badly hurt, this is where I would want to be brought," says Clare O'Neill, a trauma room nurse from Birkenhead who has worked in the United States for the past 16 years. "Everything that can be done is done, and it is done quickly. At other places it could be done in time, but you might be dead while you're waiting."

As soon as an ambulance picks up a trauma patient bound for Bellevue, the crew radios ahead to warn the unit. The five doctors on standby are summoned from their duties elsewhere in the hospital, and within minutes of the patient's arrival have performed any critical surgery and sent the injured person into one of two operating theatres specially reserved for trauma cases.

The key to the trauma centre system is that every nurse and doctor becomes so accustomed to dealing with severe injuries that they rarely make mistakes. Bellevue's trauma room handled about 1,000 patients last year, giving its staff a wealth of experience.

Doctor Ameen Ramzi, of the Maryland Shock-Trauma Centre in Baltimore, which treats almost 3,000 trauma cases annually, estimates that a trauma unit needs at least 300 to 500 patients a year to justify its existence. There is about one trauma patient a year for every 1,000 people, so that a trauma centre requires a population base of between 300,000 to 500,000 people. By that reckoning, London would require about 15 or 16 designated centres. "You British have the

person power in the hospitals to do it," says Dr Goldfrank.

Americans say that the structure of the National Health Service would make it easy to set up a trauma centre system in Britain, so that local hospitals are not overwhelmed during disasters. Because health care in Britain is overwhelmingly controlled by the state, it would be possible to assign certain tasks to certain hospitals.

Another major stumbling block is also less important in Britain: money. Although many large American cities now have trauma centres, the system has faltered in several places because of the cost. Providing trauma care is, by its very nature, loss-making. Treatment for severe injuries - available to all, including the poor and uninsured - is very expensive and recuperation can be long. In Los Angeles and Miami the trauma centre system has broken down because private hospitals did not find it profitable.

As Dr Goldfrank puts it: "If you are a private hospital and you like to take care of Queen Elizabeth and you don't want to take care of the man who has frozen on the street, you don't set up a trauma section."

Kiss and tell

A close look at glandular fever may help solve some other medical mysteries

A planned study on "the teenager's kissing disease", glandular fever, could unlock the mysteries of post-viral fatigue syndrome, also known as Myalgic Encephalomyelitis (ME).

Dr Peter White, locum senior lecturer in psychiatry at St Bartholomew's Hospital, London, hopes it will. A questionnaire, drawn up by White and a member of the public - Margaret Durban, aged 64 - attempts to discover why some people can take years to shake off the effects of ME, while most bounce back to normal in a few months.

"Everybody may know somebody who has had glandular fever," White says, "but not everyone is aware that some patients appear to spend years on an on-off recovery course, often with depressive side effects."

The difference between our research and that on ME," he explains, "is that we shall be looking at a specific illness and its after-effects."

The questionnaire will complement White's almost completed study which traces the progress of the disease for six months in 140 people. The study looks at the effects of stress, bed-rest, antibiotics and anti-depressants on sufferers.

Letters and paperwork detailing these effects are piled high in the dining-room of Margaret Durban's home in Sydenham. Five years ago, when she was in her last year as a modern languages lecturer, she had first-hand experience of the illness. She nursed a student, who was laid so low for so long that their university careers were in jeopardy.

"Stress, lack of bed-rest and a conscious urge to get back to work appeared to be common scenarios," she recalls. "In certain cases there appeared to be a lack of understanding on the part of their GPs. If patients did not recover completely within, say six months, they were told that it was all in the mind or that they were being lazy."

She wrote to university medical officers for details of any long-term recoveries, and

to discover how common the virus was among students and how many had had to abandon their courses. On the whole the replies were not encouraging. "Some reported an average of two cases every week; others did not have figures. One medical officer grandly told me there were no prolonged effects of the virus."

Durban next advertised in the ME newsletter. She asked for replies only from those who had first been diagnosed as suffering from the Epstein-Barr virus, a member of the herpes family. Now, more than 100 letters later, she fiercely guards the writers' identities, but can talk of "ended careers, broken marriages, lack of concentration, fatigue and depression."

Although the Epstein-Barr virus is most commonly contracted (and is symptomless) at around the age of five, it can strike well after the teenage/university years and has been recorded in sufferers aged up to 80.

Margaret Durban's case histories are not, she says, composed of drips, wets or wallies.

There is the former sport-playing schoolboy, for instance, whose near constant symptoms of depression and fatigue have stayed with him for 24 years; the mother of two young children whose nine years of exhaustion, painful joints and irritability have had blissful remission only while pregnant and breast-feeding.

"I certainly don't want to scare people who have caught glandular fever," Durban says. "I want to tell those who are taking much longer than, say, six months or a year to get better, that they are not alone. Their symptoms are not just in their imagination."

Readers who have been diagnosed as suffering from glandular fever and who have taken longer than six months to make a full recovery are invited to take part in St Bartholomew's study, via Margaret Durban. Send a SAE to Glandular Fever Research Project, PO Box 767, London

Vivien Tomlinson
© Times Newspapers Ltd 1988

'If patients did not recover in six months, they were told that they were lazy'

Heartening developments

Fourteen years ago Clive Ashby, the former English rugby scrum-half, swapped an interest in the leather pill-shaped ball for shiny oval tablets. Clive, aged 37, was playing with his usual verve for an English veterans team when he developed a sudden gripping, heavy pain in his chest which rapidly spread down his arms. It was so severe that he was unable to stand, and vomited on the pitch. Team-mate Billy Trendwell, a dentist, suspected that Clive was having a coronary thrombosis and took him immediately to a local doctor, another rugby-playing crosby, who confirmed that it was a heart attack.

Since then Clive has had two transient ischaemic attacks, the minor fleeting strokes made famous by Lord White-law's troubles last Christmas, and more recently a second thrombosis. However, he is no more inclined to capitulate to illness than he was to the Scottish forwards at Murrayfield, and so after extensive bypass surgery he is back at his managing director's desk.

The root cause of his arterial trouble is

MEDICAL BRIEFING

Dr Thomas Stuttford

familial hyperlipidaemia. Clive is now taking simvastatin (Zocor), the new cholesterol-lowering drug which acts by inhibiting cholesterol synthesis.

The Ashbys, like many other families, have an hereditary tendency to a high serum cholesterol. Clive's father died at 51 of a pulmonary embolism, a clot in the artery of the lung; his brother Brian, aged 54, has also had a heart bypass, and his younger brother David, MP for North-west Leicestershire, has had a raised cholesterol. Two of Clive's three daughters have a seriously raised cholesterol as well. They are lucky that their blood was tested while they were still teenagers so that they were able to alter their diet and lifestyles to reduce the chances of developing arterial disease in early middle age.

Their generation is fortunate, too, in that if diet, exercise and rejection of tobacco do not lower the cholesterol level to safe limits, there are new drugs just completing clinical trial which will soon become generally available. It is hoped that these will be able to reduce cholesterol levels by 25 to 50 per cent. Zocor, which has been prescribed for Clive, has not passed all its pre-release stages, but if all goes well it will soon become generally available. Unlike earlier cholesterol-lowering drugs it need only be taken once a day, it has no unpleasant taste and seems to be free of the gastro-intestinal side effects which were so unpleasant in earlier drugs taken to lower serum fats.

Zocor interferes with the enzyme systems which manufacture the cholesterol and is a revolutionary advance in the control of heart disease. This means that it is even more important that children (and other close relatives) of people who have had early heart attacks have their blood tested before their arteries also start to become diseased.

TB or not TB?

A glance at the necks of the pro-war generation at any gathering will usually reveal that one or two carry the scars of tubercular

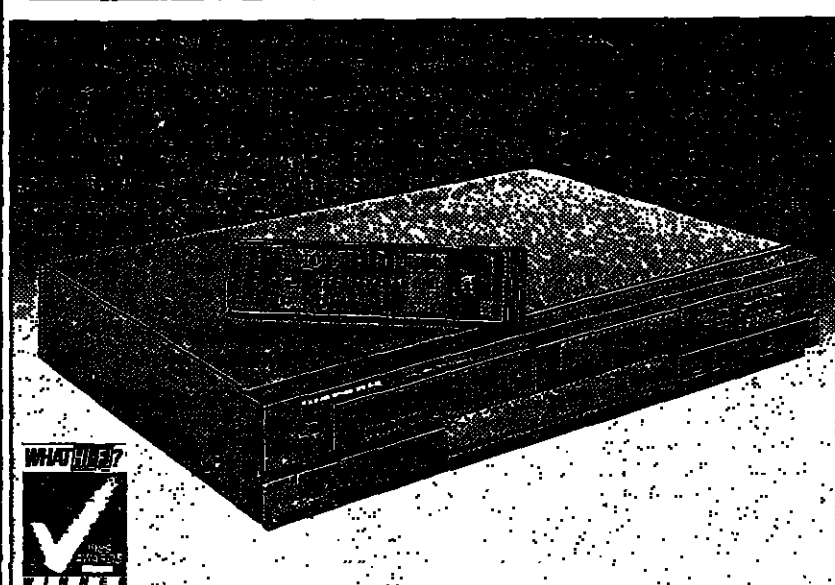
glands removed in childhood. If these patients could be persuaded to have their abdomens X-rayed, some would also show areas of calcification where tubercular glands have healed around their guts. TB of the neck and abdomen usually resulted from drinking milk infected with

bovine tuberculosis. Pasteurized milk, routine testing of dairy herds associated with a vigorous slaughter policy, together with an improved standard of living, BCG vaccination against TB, and modern drugs, have meant that this type of tuberculosis is rarely seen today.

Recently, however, a new danger to Britain's dairy herds, and hence public health, has appeared. Red deer, farmed for their meat, have proved to be very susceptible to bovine tuberculosis. The disease, introduced by Hungarian deer brought in to improve British stock, has spread rapidly. In one Sussex herd 75 per cent of the deer, when tested by sensitive blood tests, rather than the less sensitive skin tests adequate for cows, have shown positive results. They either have, or have had, bovine tuberculosis.

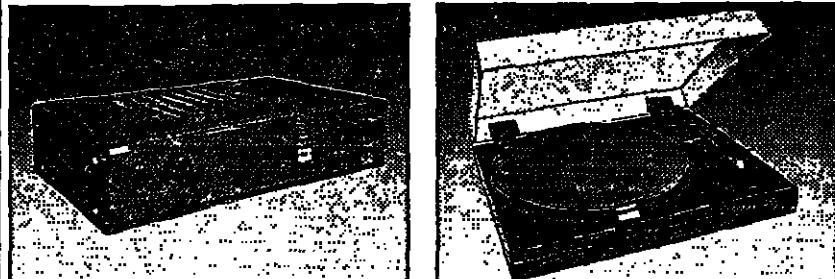
Naturalists, doctors, farmers, veterinary surgeons and deer breeders all want stringent measures to be taken to deal with these pools of infection which could spread into, and threaten, wild deer and badgers as well as cattle. They feel that the Government's present proposal to deal with the situation by making TB in deer a notifiable disease, and the infected herd subject to movement restriction orders, is inadequate. The deer farmers want to see a compulsory slaughter with compensation policy introduced. It seems to them to be illogical for the Government to have attempted to annihilate badgers because of their tendency to develop bovine TB, and yet to tolerate it in farmed deer. (Incidentally, properly cooked venison cannot carry the disease.)

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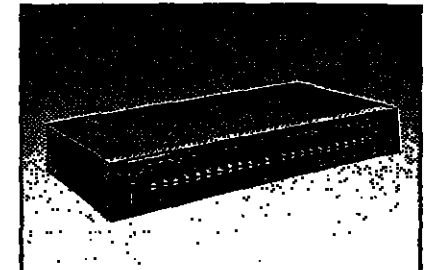
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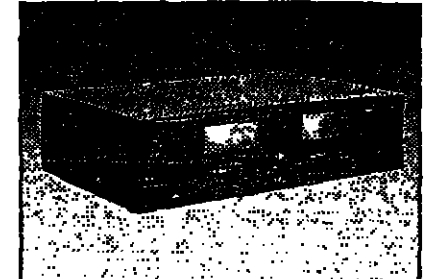
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BRITAIN'S TOP CRUISING MAGAZINE - JANUARY ISSUE OUT NOW



ALAN COREN

Say what you like about the Duke of Edinburgh...

Take last Tuesday, when, in one of his jollier flourishes...

It meant — this is often the way with major tributes — little to me at the time...

They were a convivial and charming group, drawn neither from the ornithological gentry...

Indeed, the whole affair was manifestly businesslike, keynoted by a locale which could hardly have been a further cry from the romantic wildness...

What they were firing in the specific direction of, however, was pleasant. Fired to die, the hand-fed targets ambled from cover...

At the end of the shoot, I was, though a non-combatant, generously given a brace of pheasant, cock and hen strung together at the neck...

"They appear to be full," she said. "Yes, they come down like that..."

BARRY FANTONI



Let's hope there's no small print preventing them from paying up

My local butcher, Mr Kingsland, shook his head. "This time of year," he said. "Couldn't touch it. There's just me and the boy."

"Couldn't touch it," said the boy, "this time of year."

"Any other time," said Mr Kingsland. "There's all these turkeys," said the boy.

I came out of the shop into West End Lane. It was Monday, and the weather was warm, but the pheasant were all right, so far.

I tried four other butchers on the way to my office and three on the way home. It turned out to be this time of year. Only one, the Al Madina in Crawford Street, went mad: simply walking into a halal butcher's with a couple of mouling cadavers...

When I opened the boot on Tuesday afternoon outside Somers & Kirby, Connaught Street, to which a kindly but otherwise unhelpful soul in Selfridge's had directed me, something was definitely up.

"Could you come back Friday?" said either Somers or Kirby. "Can't promise, mind."

I looked at the pheasants. More feathers fell off.

I have made more phone calls today, and there's something else I know. Which is that the gulf between hunters and butchers would appear to be wider even than the Duke's stately perception can encompass.

Dublin In commenting on the failure of the Ryan extradition request I will start by making a present to those whom the Irish Attorney General's decision infuriated...

Although it is true that he has a general role in representing the public interest, his role in the extradition process is limited...

Even if the warrants had been endorsed and the arrest had taken place, Ryan would still have had two weeks in which to go to that court on either statutory or constitutional grounds...

It meant — this is often the way with major tributes — little to me at the time...

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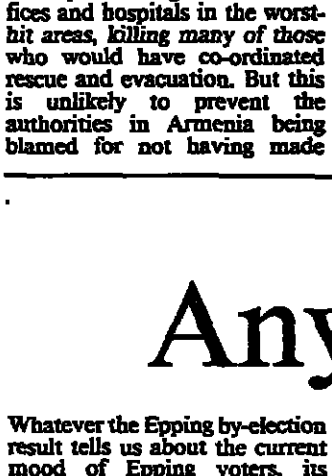
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John Kelly explains the thinking behind the extradition refusal

Ryan: why Dublin said no

body of doctrine about citizens' constitutional entitlement to "fair procedures"; and I would be very surprised, on the evidence of the atmosphere generated in Britain in the last two weeks...

That atmosphere arises, to quote the Attorney General, in part from "media attacks on Patrick Ryan's general character, often expressed in intemperate language and frequently in the form of extravagantly worded headlines..."

How likely is it, after all this, that the ordinary process of jury selection could throw up twelve jurors with minds still quite open about Patrick Ryan?

office as to take orders about how to exercise it. If he has over-extended his powers on this occasion, I believe it is in response to an honest belief for which in fact quite serious arguments, based on modern Irish constitutional law, can be advanced.

Two other very important matters arise. First, the Attorney General's statement contained the specific charge that not only on this but on a previous occasion the material used in British media presentations of background on pending extradition requests could have come only from some official British source...

This quite specific charge calls for a specific response. If it is not forthcoming, or is not satisfactory, the British authorities will appear deliberately to have colluded with the media in

generating the atmosphere which makes the possibility of a fair trial seem so remote.

Secondly, what can now be done, since extradition is ruled out? There remains Ireland's Criminal Law Jurisdiction Act of 1976, under which persons accused of certain offences in Northern Ireland, or (broadly, where explosives are involved) in Britain, can be tried by an Irish court.

The initiative in invoking this Act lies, as it must lie, with the Northern Ireland and British authorities; and if surprisingly little use has been made of it, it is they and not we who are called on to explain why.

The author represents Dublin South in the Dail and was a minister and previously Attorney General in Fine Gael-Labour coalition governments.

Mary Dejevsky

Shockwaves from Armenia

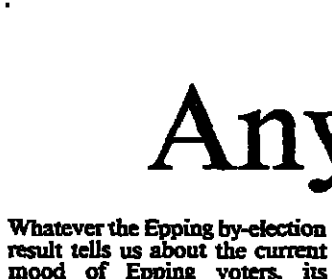
Moscow As Armenians start to rebuild their lives after last week's earthquake, Nikolai Ryzhkov, the prime minister and chairman of the Politburo commission, was saying that insufficient local resources were being directed to the disaster area...

In theory, the Soviet civilian population is one of the best prepared for war or natural disaster. Among its many tasks, the ubiquitous civil defence organization Dossaf (an acronym for the voluntary society for assisting the army, air force and navy) organizes civil defence training for most school-children, leading some western observers to believe that the Soviet Union is virtually on a permanent war footing.

At the end of the shoot, I was, though a non-combatant, generously given a brace of pheasant, cock and hen strung together at the neck in a rather touching eternal embrace.

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adequate preparations for a disaster of this kind and for responding too slowly. Even six days after the earthquake, Nikolai Ryzhkov, the prime minister and chairman of the Politburo commission, was saying that insufficient local resources were being directed to the disaster area...

So far, judging from official reports, little blame has been attached to the central leadership. The Ryzhkov commission, along with the health minister and the defence minister, Dmitri Yazov, probably represent the ubiquitous concentration of senior officials to arrive so promptly in a Soviet disaster area.

Mr Gorbachev's authority, meanwhile, is undiminished. If anything, it has been enhanced. By cutting short his foreign tour to visit the disaster area and to be seen on television listening to the complaints of survivors and rescue workers, he did something none of his predecessors had ever done: he behaved like a national leader.

Gorbachev personally hand-picked the Politburo commission. Those Politburo members rumoured to be less enthusiastic about his reform programme, Yegor Ligachev and Lev Zaykov in particular,

official figure of 40-45,000 and believe the number will in fact exceed 80,000.

They also blame the central authorities for the delay in mounting the relief operation and for its initial inefficiency. In this, they see not only the hand of Moscow, but indirectly also the hand of their enemies in Azerbaijan.

Moscow's refusal during the summer to countenance Armenia's demand for the transfer of the disputed region of Nagorno-Karabakh from Azerbaijan has led many Armenians to regard Moscow and Azerbaijan as being in collusion.

However, even-handed Gorbachev tried to make his criticism of both sides in the dispute at the weekend, and however loudly he insists — as he did then — that it is morally reprehensible to link the territorial dispute and the earthquake, Armenians see the fate of Nagorno-Karabakh as indicative of his attitude, and many are unhappy.

Last Sunday, Armenian anger was expressed in a mass demonstration in Yerevan. It had been planned with three aims: to protest against the delays in the earthquake relief operation, to demand that Armenia should not accept any aid from Azerbaijan, and to protest against the rumoured permanent evacuation of Armenian children to Russia. The



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retreat from total unilateralism all the way, and they can also be expected to fight the leadership on the other reformist fronts, including the economy.

The nation will not elect a party which makes proposals of convenience from the head to which the heart is not committed. It wishes to consign the older style of socialism to history. Nor will votes be won by the rhetoric of the Charter 88 kind which pretends that this is so arbitrary a government as to be controllable only by the entrenched clauses of a new Bill of Rights.

They do not, however, contemplate turning Mrs Thatcher out because they see a really malevolent kind of arbitrariness dogging Mr Kinnock's footsteps in the Labour Party. When they observe the left rebelling against his decision to abstain on the Prevention of Terrorism Bill — rather than vote against it, so as not to oppose the confiscation of terrorists' funds — they find their instincts confirmed.

Mr Kinnock may not be brilliant at his job. He does not greatly impress the public. But it is the party, not its leader, which is condemned. Mrs Thatcher has cause to be grateful. Confronted by a genuinely social democratic Labour Party, a Tory government whose prospective policies for the rest of this parliament commanded so little enthusiasm might not sleep quite so easily.

As Mr Ron Todd of the TGWU has made clear this week, the activists will fight the

The readers of The Times are told in the same breath that, if media and parliamentary comments have made a fair trial in Britain impossible, they must equally have done so here where British papers freely circulate and British broadcasts are widely received...

The initiative in invoking this Act lies, as it must lie, with the Northern Ireland and British authorities; and if surprisingly little use has been made of it, it is they and not we who are called on to explain why.

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when the troops enforcing it were transferred to earthquake relief, was reimposed. The day after the demonstration, the Yerevan military command broadcast an announcement of the arrest and an appeal for "calm, observance of order and the regulations in force, for restraint and common sense". Reports from Yerevan now say the city is very tense.

Many Armenians say publicly that the disaster is so great that differences with Azerbaijan should be forgotten in the relief effort. But others tell western reporters that the earthquake and the response to it in Moscow and Azerbaijan show how important it is to continue the fight for Nagorno-Karabakh.

Wild rumours have been spread: that Azeris are holding up relief supplies at the Armenian border, that non-Armenians will be drafted into the republic on the pretext of earthquake reconstruction and that the evacuation of people from the afflicted areas is only a cover for the permanent deportation of Armenians to Siberia.

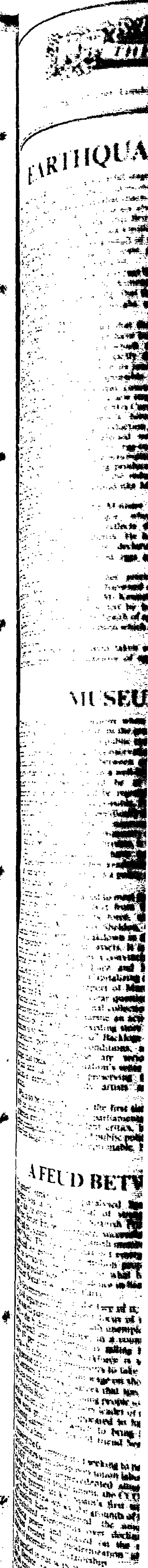
In the extreme conditions following the earthquake, Nagorno-Karabakh still stands as a symbol of Armenian aspirations. The more distant it seems, the more obstacles are placed in the way, the more fiercely Armenian longing for it burns. Now, more than at any time since the massacres by the Turks of 1915, Armenians need a dream. The territory of Nagorno-Karabakh, populated by Armenians, misused by Azerbaijan and denied them by Moscow, gives them just that.

ON THIS DAY 1870

Amodeo, Duke of Aosta and second son of Victor Emmanuel, was so unpopular with the Spanish people that he abdicated after three years on the throne when civil war threatened.

THE SPANISH DEPUTATION IN FLORENCE

What a delightful task it would be for some modern Pags to describe the festivities we are now witnessing here in honour of the Spanish Deputation sent to offer the Throne of Ferdinand and Isabella to Amadeo di Savoia! And, alas how far less delightful must be that of those unfortunate Hidalgo entrusted with the solemn mission, the chief actors in the play! Ever since their first arrival in Florence at midday on Saturday last, in full gala dress and glittering with stars, up to this evening (Wednesday), they can scarcely have had a moment's breathing time. Nor are they yet at the end of their arduous undertaking...





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EARTHQUAKES AND EGGS

The Armenian earthquake is a fearful tragedy and there is nothing funny about *Salmonella enteritidis*. Yet there was a surrealistic character which verged on the blackly humorous about the report in *The Times* yesterday that British egg producers are to send to Armenia a million of the eggs which are unsold as a result of the salmonella scare. It does, to say the least, put the egg matter in a kind of perspective.

On the one hand, we have a million eggs that can be sent to the victims of the Armenian earthquake, in the certain knowledge that they will do good which wholly outweighs any infinitesimal health risk attached.

On the other, we have the fact that these million eggs and very many more have been unsold as a result of the fears which the Department of Health has not exactly discouraged and for the scale of which its junior minister, Mrs Currie, is largely responsible.

Public, medical and government concern had been voiced about the risk of a new strain of salmonella related to eggs before Mrs Currie spoke. But it was Mrs Currie's breezy statement that "most of the egg production in this country is, sadly, now infected with salmonella" that precipitated the egg-consumers' strike and reduced egg consumption by about 60 per cent, threatening producers with ruin and their workers with the redundancy which some Tory MPs would like Mrs Currie to share.

That statement infuriated the Minister of Agriculture, Mr John MacGregor, whose producer-orientated department reflects the anxieties of the threatened industry. He has virtually contradicted Mrs Currie, declaring that "it is not the case that most eggs are infected."

Yet whatever he thinks of her precise phraseology, Mrs Currie was not disowned or rebuked by her Secretary of State, Mr Kenneth Clarke, and is apparently supported by her department, which represents the health of egg consumers and the medical profession which is supposed to guard it.

Moreover, fresh eggs have been taken off some hospital menus. The majority of egg-

eaters seem to have decided that, even though the statistical risk to any individual of being infected by salmonella is small, the individuals are unlucky enough to get it might just be themselves.

This confusion is chiefly the responsibility of the Government departments involved. The new voluntary code of practice for the keeping and feeding of hen-laying eggs was plainly an inadequate public reassurance. Now, after prolonged negotiations between the Departments of Agriculture and Health, in the atmosphere of two rival powers on the brink of conflict, an advertising campaign has been announced.

On balance, it seems to represent more of a victory for Health (and the doctors) than for Agriculture (and the producers.) Though reminded of the nutritious advantages of eggs and the very small risk of infection, we are nevertheless told (as the Chief Medical Officer has already advised) not to eat raw eggs, which seems to apply whatever our state of health.

But if we think we are healthy we can eat them cooked as usual. It is not entirely clear whether this is chiefly because even light cooking is some protection or because the infection is no great risk to the fit. It is not new, nor is it exactly the clearest advice to people confused by the statistics and about the facts.

On one level, the whole affair can be studied with academic interest by the students of the relationship of interest groups with rival Whitehall departments, each of which has its "clients" to whose cause it is more dedicated than to abstract truth.

Or the affair might be seen as a series of damage limitation exercises by politicians and officials as ignorant as everyone else about where precisely the balance of truth lies. On the substance of the matter, each citizen must still make up his own mind. The Government's aim for the future should be to equip itself with rather more scientific facts to share with the public. Its ministers could make earlier use of the machinery which exists for co-ordinating Government pronouncements on health.

MUSEUM MINIMA

There will, inevitably, be occasions when a picture, a book or some artefact from the great national collections is invisible to public eyes: when it is undergoing the work of conservation or cataloguing, or is in transit between one gallery or museum and another. In a well-kept collection their number should be at a minimum; their absence should be regretted and its duration kept as short as possible. For though the national collections, specifically the British and Victoria and Albert museums, have essential obligations to the community of scholars and experts who view in private, it is difficult to conceive that they have any obligation less pressing than public availability and an inescapable commitment to a policy of open shelves and open galleries.

The charge that they have failed to meet that obligation gives yesterday's report from the Public Accounts Committee its force, and allows its chairman, Mr Robert Sheldon, to allege that there has been a breakdown in the proper stewardship of national assets. It is a forceful critique, which requires a convincing response from Mr Richard Luce and his colleagues in the Government. Capitalizing on the National Audit Office's report of March this year, the PAC asks some clear questions which the curators of the national collections have not yet answered: why pursue an active acquisitions policy when the existing store of treasures is so badly conserved? Backlogs in conservation; poor storage conditions; unsystematic inventories: these are serious charges, that speak ill of the nation's sense of its past and its pride in preserving the qualitative expression of its artists and artisans.

What is to be done? Not for the first time, both the auditors and their parliamentary spokesmen prove to be excellent critics, but rather unimaginative analysts of public policy. Their first suggestion is unexceptionable. No

curator can operate successfully on an annual basis; the keepers of the national collections need the financial freedom to undertake longer-run programmes of cataloguing and conservation. The notion of apportioning a priority to items in the collections and trading off new acquisitions against items in stock is more problematic.

What ought to be the acquisitions policy of the V & A or the British Museum? The answer is a hard decision: if for whatever reason the museums cannot display their treasures, then surely they ought to divest themselves of pieces to collections (abroad?) which can make more fruitful use of them.

Before then, however, the Government has to speak more resolutely than it has to date about the future of investment in these collections. They are of course highly significant items in the tourism budget as well as appurtenances of a civilized, and historically conscious country. Buildings are one item, and staffing is another. Mr Luce possibly has to recognize that the time has come when the Government's proper concern for aggregate numbers of employees in the public service is actually doing damage to national institutions and that the time has come to stop turning the screw.

If the Government were to decide that the United Kingdom was too well endowed with national collections of arts and artefacts and that public policy should no longer concern itself with, say, the V & A, that would at least represent a clear-cut decision. But as long as these collections remain - and they should - a public charge, gathered together and exhibited for the education and joy of the British public and foreign visitors, then the Government should accept that certain minimum costs have to be borne. The PAC gives useful guidance on what those minima are.

A FEUD BETWEEN BROTHERS

The general strike which paralysed Spain yesterday was a political trial of strength similar to the one which the Spanish Prime Minister, Señor Felipe González, successfully mounted two years ago over Spanish membership of Nato. This time, he has not emerged unscathed. An estimated 7.8 million people, half the workforce, responded to what had become a popular vote of confidence in Señor González' Socialist Workers' Party.

The Government had, on the face of it, all the good arguments. The direct focus of the strike was its plan to reduce youth unemployment - the highest in Europe, in a country whose overall unemployment is falling but where 19 per cent of the workforce is still jobless - by subsidizing employers to take on young people at the minimum wage on short-term contracts. Everybody agrees that special measures are needed to find young people jobs. Señor Nicolas Redondo, the fiery leader of the socialist union, the UGT, appeared to have picked weak ground on which to bring his simmering quarrel with his old friend Señor González to a head.

Accusing the Government of seeking to pack Spain's factories with cheap non-union labour, the UGT forged an unprecedented alliance with the Communist trade union, the CCOO, to call the general strike. Spain's first since 1934. In the past few weeks, the grounds of the confrontation have broadened: the unions have mobilized resentments over declining purchasing power, and played on the uncertainties created by modernization after decades of paternalistic dictatorship.

The parallel is not with Britain in the late 1970s. Despite yesterday's huge turnout, Spanish unions are not over-mighty subjects with well-entrenched powers. They are young

- Franco's Spain banned unions along with the right to strike - and underfunded. The essence of the political dispute is that, as in France, the unions feel betrayed by a socialist Government dedicated to market policies.

The UGT and the Socialist Workers' Party have, as the party's name implies, been blood brothers. Señor González owes his leadership of the party to Señor Redondo. The UGT owes many of its members' jobs to systematic Government favouritism which has made whole sectors of the civil and public services UGT preserves. The showdown has all the characteristics of a blood feud.

In economic terms, Señor González could have chosen to ignore a 24-hour strike. Instead, and characteristically, he took up the political challenge. He staked his prestige on a low turnout, inviting Spaniards to choose between being Europeans and Latin Americans. No European country, he said, had had a general strike in 20 years; Argentina had suffered 13 in the last five. To strike would be to show political immaturity. The UGT fought its corner with equal ferocity, expelling union leaders who opposed the strike call.

In retrospect, Señor González would seem on this occasion to have chosen an unsuitable style for the right message. The right to strike is also, after all, a symbol to Spaniards of the country's modernization. The turn-out is as much a verdict on the Prime Minister's perceived arrogance as it is on the ostensible issues of wages and job security. The strike is thus a salutary reminder to Señor González that politicians are fallible. But the relationship between the Government and the UGT has been too cosy for Spain's good, and it will be a setback for the country if he loses the war as well as this round in the battle.

Egg fears placed in perspective

From Mr Christopher Jackson, MEP for East Kent (European Democrat (Conservative))

Sir, "Hens face slaughter as egg sales drop" (*Times* headline, December 10). When a Government minister pronounces that "most British egg production was infected with salmonella", it occasions considerable alarm. The public and the industry concerned have a right to expect either that such a statement is backed by facts, or that it will be withdrawn with equivalent publicity.

Having been to some lengths to ascertain the facts, I have found no evidence from official or unofficial sources to back up the ministerial statement quoted.

In 1988 there have been on average 1,000 known cases a month of salmonella food poisoning. Of these, about 100 cases are linked to eggs. Tests on flocks suspected of association with cases revealed an infection rate of 1 to 2 per cent. Random tests on other flocks revealed not a single egg - i.e., zero infection. A major egg producer has recently tested 1,500 eggs at random, again with a zero infection result.

In Britain we produce some 30 million eggs a day. Perhaps 15 million a day are eaten in a lightly cooked or uncooked form - 450 million a month. Comparison with the 1,000 cases a month suggests that one egg in every 450,000 may give rise to a case of salmonella poisoning. To put this graphically, if you, Sir, were to eat an egg a day for the next 1,000 years you might get a tummy upset on one occasion.

Life is not and never will be risk-free. We are surrounded by germs. The annual risk of serious injury in a road accident is higher than the risk of one tummy upset through a raw egg for someone who eats one a day for a year.

Today an important industry is suffering a catastrophe, with sales down by up to 60 per cent (report, December 12), largely because of an exaggerated statement. It is time the Government corrected the record. Yours faithfully, CHRISTOPHER JACKSON, 8 Wellmead Drive, Sevenoaks, Kent, December 14.

From Mr James Behrens Sir, It's as clear as eggs are eggs that I shall have to find some other expression to use when I'm sure about something. Yours faithfully, JAMES BEHRENS, 13 Old Square, Lincoln's Inn, WC2, December 13.

Clapham rail crash

From Mr Rainer Burchett Sir, One factor that must not be overlooked in the enquiries into the Clapham rail disaster is the lack of voice communication in the driver's cab.

The driver of the first train apparently noticed the faulty signal and stopped his train in order to find a telephone to report the fault. Clearly a telephone or radio link would have enabled him to communicate more quickly and could well have avoided the disaster altogether.

Even if signalling can be improved to be completely fail-safe other emergencies can arise, such as fallen trees or other obstructions on the line, which will be better dealt with by direct communication. Yours faithfully, R. BURCHETT, 29 Aldeham Avenue, Radlett, Hertfordshire, December 13.

The training circle

From the Director-General of the Association of British Chambers of Commerce

Sir, You rightly call on chambers of commerce (leading article, December 6) to react quickly to the opportunities presented by the Government's White Paper on training. While chambers may frequently act as a catalyst for the setting up of Training and Enterprise Councils, their involvement must be of a wider nature.

The councils, composed mainly of senior local businessmen, represent an admirable advance towards training that is sensitive to local needs. But business involvement must not stop with the council itself.

If the new bodies are not to become local quangos, distant from and insensitive to the needs of business generally, the entire business community, focused on its chamber of commerce, must have an input into the council's decisions. To succeed, the councils will need to tap into existing networks. Yours faithfully, R. G. TAYLOR, Director-General, The Association of British Chambers of Commerce, 212a Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2, December 14.

Infant deaths

From the Chief Executive of the Foundation for the Study of Infant Deaths

Sir, The report (details, December 14) of the all-party committee of MPs on perinatal, neonatal, and infant mortality focused our attention once again on the stark truth that each year babies die suddenly and unexpectedly, and that some such deaths are clearly preventable.

The Foundation for the Study of Infant Deaths is the major funder of research into cot deaths and we

Tighter grip on North Sea fishery

From Mr James Provan, MEP for North East Scotland (European Democrat (Conservative))

Sir, Today's leading article ("The men in the boats", December 13) is a timely reminder of the continued importance of the fishing industry to the north-east of Scotland and to the Scottish economy as a whole.

The cuts in the cod and haddock quotas are a savage blow to an industry already suffering from the freeze in boat-building grants and facing a substantial bill to bring facilities up to the standards which will be required for it to compete successfully in the single Community market. It would have been far worse if ministers had taken the easy way out of increasing quotas through the creation of "paper" fish.

Our ministers' achievements should be recognised for what they were able to obtain in Brussels - not just obtaining the lion's share of the haddock quota, but also the right to follow the mackerel shoals into the North Sea.

While the TAC (total allowable catches) system needs to be strengthened, possibly by setting

quotas over a range of white fish species and over a number of years, the first requirement is to reduce the catching power of the fleet.

In 1987 the UK, along with other member States, agreed to a 3 per cent reduction in tonnage by 1991. The UK fleet is now some 15 per cent over target. The European Community has a scheme for decommissioning vessels. Significantly, the country which has applied the scheme most enthusiastically, Denmark, has registered the largest fall in vessel tonnage.

Ireland and the UK, which have not applied the scheme, have seen the greatest increase in tonnage. In conjunction with a tightening up of the vessel licensing arrangements to prevent a build-up of new capacity the UK should now apply the Community decommissioning scheme, as a matter of urgency.

Yours sincerely, JAMES PROVAN, European Parliament, 97-113 rue Belliard, 1040 Brussels, Belgium, December 13.

Transport troubles

From Miss Jillian E. Beardwood Sir, In summing up (leading article, December 10) your excellent series of articles on transport in London you rightly emphasise the need for co-ordinated planning and action. I think that perhaps the general reader will not have realised from those articles how far professional (as opposed to political) thinking has moved in this direction in the last few years. The area assessment studies, for example, are being allowed to take some note of public transport.

I personally also regret that no space has yet been found to inform that reader of the sterling work done jointly by the statisticians of the Department of Transport and the boroughs to keep available for all concerned as much as possible of the basic transport data held at the time of its abolition by the Greater London Council.

It is, however, the future which matters and it so happens that there is a key date in that future which would influence the time-table of any administrative changes proposed. This date is 1991, when the fourth in the series of decennial London Transport surveys is due.

The previous three such surveys were the source of many of the facts presented by your recent correspondents and are still used extensively by those concerned with transport in London. A 1991 survey, carried out and subsequently managed and made generally accessible under a new London Transport Executive which both used and added to the expertise built up under the old bodies would be a key weapon in the war against capital chaos. Yours faithfully, JILLIAN E. BEARDWOOD, 100 Heath Row, Bishops Cleeve, Hertfordshire, December 11.

From Mr S. P. C. Plowden Sir, In his interesting *Spectrum* article (December 5) Paul Valley quotes the principle adopted in my recent study for the London Centre for Transport Planning that a car journey should be restrained where the costs to other road users, in time and money, exceed the benefits to the individual car user". This principle was used to assess what proportion of the journeys now made to central London every morning by car should transfer to public transport. It was shown that the great majority should transfer. The study then compared the various means by which the transfers

might be brought about, but, contrary to the impression given by the *Spectrum* article, it did not conclude that road pricing would be the best.

Road pricing is hard to justify while company car tax concessions and similar fiscal distortions remain. Even if they were all removed, the report suggested that a method of restraint combining permits and pricing might be preferable to schemes based on road pricing alone. Only certain kinds of people would have the right to use a car in the centre, but they would also have to pay.

This method can be thought of as an extension of the familiar and accepted residents' parking schemes. The report argues that it would probably be fairer and more effective than pure road pricing. One advantage is that it should produce a greater reduction in traffic than either road pricing or the other restraint methods that have been canvassed, and should therefore do most to improve bus services, conditions for pedestrians and cyclists and the environment. Yours faithfully, STEPHEN PLOWDEN, 69 Albert Street, NW1, December 5.

Blood alcohol test

From Dr Robin Moffat Sir, Forensic medical practitioners, and police surgeons in particular, will welcome the law lords' timely ruling (Law Report, December 9) that evidence obtained from the back-calculation of blood alcohol was not barred by statute, and was admissible when there was clear evidence that a driver was over the limit.

The expressed concern of the British Medical Association is understandable because the concentration of alcohol in the blood does not descend evenly, but varies, depending upon an individual's physiology, height, and weight. However, competent forensic scientists always allow for these factors, and the evidential figure produced in court is always inclined in favour of the defendant.

Many intoxicated motorists (especially re-offenders), when arrested, try every trick in the book to delay the sampling of their blood or urine. The House of Lords' decision will assist law-enforcement and will save innocent lives by removing some of the most dangerous drivers from the public highway.

I am, Sir, yours truly, ROBIN MOFFAT (Senior forensic medical examiner, Metropolitan Police), 10 Harrow Street, W1, December 12.

Status of Eritrea

From Ms Mary Dines Sir, I am afraid that the Ethiopian Ambassador's letter about the status of Eritrea (December 1) was very economical with the truth. Eritrea was never part of Ethiopia.

Before modern times, parts of the country were occupied by foreign powers, especially the Ottoman Empire. Its only connection with Abyssinia at that time was that some Eritrean chiefs paid tribute to the Tigrayan kings. At no time was there any administration or control of territory by the Abyssinians.

Eritrea was not therefore stolen from Abyssinia by the Italians. It was ceded to Italy as part of the Treaty of Berlin, under which the European powers carved up Africa into European colonies.

Abyssinia was the only African country to take part in what became known as the "scramble for Africa". With the help of European arms, Menelik was able to embark on a conquest of the states to the south of Shoa, then part of a loose-knit Oromo confederation. These people were subjugated with great cruelty. Me-

nelik acknowledged the Italian occupation of Eritrea by sending a consul to Asmara.

When Ethiopia annexed Eritrea in 1962 - in defiance of the United Nations - they did so from self-interest. Eritrea has two good ports, whilst Ethiopia is landlocked, and possessed important natural resources, including oil, which were not known to be available in Ethiopia at the time. In 1962, of course, Ethiopia was a capitalist state - a fact the Ambassador ignores.

Finally, the Ambassador must have been misinformed about the use of children in his country's army. No doubt Andrew Buckoke (report, November 22) saw many of them when he was in Eritrea recently. I have also seen hundreds of Ethiopian prisoners of war who were under military age during visits to Eritrea in the last 10 years. Some had only been 12 or 13 when recruited. Many other journalists and other visitors to Eritrea have also reported on the child conscripts. Yours faithfully, MARY DINES, 43 Brownlow Road, N11.

were disappointed that the important contributions to the knowledge on sudden infant death (£3 million allocated to over 100 projects) was not acknowledged by the Social Services Committee.

We welcome the recommendation that there should be further research into sudden infant death syndrome. Cot deaths are the most common kind of death in the one-week to two-year age group and

the third largest cause of all child deaths. We know from our parent support groups that the parental shock and bewilderment can be devastating and long-lasting. We hope that in addition to funding research the Government will also consider how we can ensure support is offered to every cot death family with their subsequent babies. Yours sincerely, ERICA DE'ATH, Chief Executive, The Foundation for the Study of Infant Deaths, 15 Belgrave Square, SW1.

Racism revived by 'glasnost'

From Mrs Zaruhi Nalbandyan Sir, I was married in 1983 and came to this country in 1985, the intervening two years being taken up by documentation in getting out of Russia. I am Armenian and spent all my life, apart from the last three years, in Baku, Azerbaijan. I taught Russian, Armenian, and Azerbaijani in a multicultural school.

From childhood we were taught the concept of internationalism, and so living in that part of the USSR we were unaware of the differences between nations and races. Earlier, although subject to Marxism, it was made clear to us that we were different races, albeit working harmoniously together.

Now, however, under the new regime of *perestroika* and *glasnost*, with relaxed control from the Kremlin, the old racial and religious differences are reasserting themselves. The inference here is obvious - that Marx and Engels, conceiving as they did that man is merely an economic animal, overlooked his racial and religious motivations.

The above is perhaps the greatest weakness in the communist system. Thus, given a free or relaxed system, both racial and religious convictions are bound to assert themselves. It is commonly thought that racism or religious consciousness is the product of dictatorial or oppressive regimes, e.g., national socialist Germany or apartheid South Africa, yet here we have the reverse effect - relaxation has in fact reawakened both.

Yours faithfully, ZARUHI NALBANDYAN, 65 Laburnum Road, Fareham, Hampshire, December 8.

A plaque for Pound?

From Dr Alastair Niven and others Sir, It has come to our attention that the London Advisory Committee of English Heritage has declined to make a decision on a proposal to put up a blue plaque to Ezra Pound on the house where he lived in Kensington Church Walk from 1909 to 1914.

Pound enlarged the scope of the English language. As Donald Davie has written, Dryden and Keats and, yes, Shakespeare are the appropriate fellows for this post of our time who magnanimously lent his energies to the language that we all share, rather than bending that language to his own egotistical purposes.

Also, by his generosity of spirit, during the period that he lived in London, Pound had an enormous and beneficial influence on the development of the arts in England. We should be able to dissociate his later political excesses from what is of permanent value in his work.

We, the undersigned, therefore ask English Heritage to reconsider this proposal with the urgency and sympathy which it merits. Yours faithfully,

ALASTAIR NIVEN (Director of Literature, Arts Council of Great Britain), MICHAEL ALEXANDER, GEORGE BARKER, WILLIAM BEDFORD, ANNE BERSFORD, ALAN BROWNE, WILLIAM COOKSON, PETER DALE, VALERIE ELLIOT, D. J. ENRIGHT, GAVIN EWART, ROY FULLER, DAVID GASCOYNE, MICHAEL HAMBURGER, IAN HAMILTON, SEAMUS HEANEY, JOHN HEATH-STUBBS, A. L. HENDRIKS, PETER JAY, ROLAND JOHN, P. J. KAVANAGH, LOTTIE KRAMER, PETER LEVI, JOHN LOVEDAY, JEAN McVEAN, DEREK MAHON, W. MOELWYN MERCHANT, W. S. MILNE, PETER PORTER, F. T. PRINCE, CRAIG RAINE, KATHLEEN RAINE, DACHINE RAINE, JEREMY REED, PETER RUSSELL, MICHAEL SCHEWY, TOM SCOTT, RON SILKIN, CLIFFORD SIMONS, C. H. SISSON, STEPHEN SPENDER, CHARLES TOMLINSON, 5 Cranbourne Court, Albert Bridge Road, SW11, December 12.

Insurance conundrum

From Mr Andrew Patrick Sir, There was wide publicity last week (Saleroom, December 10) for the record price paid for a picture by Peplow at Christie's in Glasgow. The hammer price was £460,000; the invoice to the purchaser is £512,900.

The vendor will receive from the auctioneers about £410,000. However, he will then receive a bill for capital gains tax of some £200,000. My conundrum is, how should the owners of such pictures decide on the value for insurance? Yours, ANDREW PATRICK, 148 New Bond Street, W1, December 12.

Ys and wherefore

From Dr N. M. Woods Sir, Miss M. V. Perrin (December 5) enquires about an internationally-known alphabet that could be printed in the telephone code book. May I suggest the phonetic alphabet commonly in use by radio amateurs: "A" for alpha, "B" for bravo, and so on. This alphabet is extremely useful when communications are subject to interference.

I prefer the Morse code, but that is another matter! Yours faithfully, NIALM M. WOODS, University of Liverpool, Department of Human Anatomy and Cell Biology, PO Box 147, Liverpool, Merseyside, December 5.

pledge to EC fraud



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE December 14: Mr A.D. Brighty was received in audience by the Queen and kissed hands upon his appointment as Her Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to Havana.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr J. Beaton-Hird and Miss S. Starkey The engagement is announced between Jonathan, younger son of Dr and Mrs John Beaton-Hird, of Oldwell, Ashton-under-Lilly, near Wavesham, Wiltshire, and Suzanne, eldest daughter of Sir John and Lady Starkey, Norwood Park, Southwell, Nottinghamshire.

Marriages

Mr C. Crombie and Mrs V. Pauli The marriage took place quietly on December 10, at St Andrew's Church, Headington, Oxford, between Mr Charles Crombie and Vivienne Pauli.

OBITUARIES

MAJ-GEN R. E. URQUHART Gallant commander in forlorn Arnhem battle



Major-General R. E. Urquhart, CB, DSO and Bar, who died on December 13, aged 87, commanded the First Airborne Division in the nine-day battle of Arnhem, an action which stands in a class by itself for gallantry and audacity of conception.

This piecemeal arrival proved particularly unfortunate because the Germans had captured the plans of the body of an American soldier shot down in a glider.

Birthdays today

Mr David Abell, chairman and chief executive, Suter, 46; Lord Acton, 81; Miss Valerie Aggett, principal, Holborn Law Tutors, 38; Sir Denis Barnes, civil servant, 74; Mr Michael Brookes, theatre director, 50; Mr Chris Brittain, racehorse trainer, 55; Lord Croham, 71; Lord Dunpark, 73; Air Marshal Sir John Fitzpatrick, 59; Miss Ida Haendel, violinist, 64; Mr Gunnar Hagglöf, Swedish diplomat, 84; Sir Henry Harcourt, civil servant, 83; Mr Joe Jordan, footballer, 37; General Sir Frank Kitson, 62; Deaconess Dr Una Kroll, writer and broadcaster, 63; Mr David McMurray, headmaster, Oldmixon, 51; Mr Oscar Niemeyer, architect, 81; Miss Edna O'Han, writer, 52; Professor M.H.F. Wilkins, biophysicist, 72.

Luncheons

Rotary Club of London Lord Young of Graffham, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, was the guest of honour and speaker at a luncheon given by the Rotary Club of London at the Café Royal yesterday.

Walpole's inkstand draws a record £770,000 bid

In a genial battle between dealers, a George II inkstand, by the famous artist Paul de Lamerie, tripled its estimate at £770,000 at Christie's London yesterday.

The Banqueting House to close

The Banqueting House in Whitehall, designed by Inigo Jones as part of the old Palace of Whitehall, will be closed from January 1 to March 31 for redecoration.

Memorial service

A service of thanksgiving for the life and work of Sir Frank Francis was held yesterday at St George's Bloomsbury.

Dinners

Canning House Viscount Montgomery of Alamein, President of the Hispanic and Lusitanian Societies, was host last night at a dinner held at Canning House in honour of Ambassadors and Heads of Mission of Latin America, Spain and Portugal.

Inner Temple

Mr D. E. H. Robson, QC, Mr J. P. Wadsworth, QC, Mr S. J. Sher, QC, Mr E. Tabachnik, QC, Miss Anita Ryan, QC, and Mr M. G. Tugendhat, QC, have been elected to the bench of the Inner Temple.

Today's royal engagements

The Princess of Wales will open the Norman and Sadie Lee Research Centre at the National Institute of Medical Research, Mill Hill, at 10.30, and will attend a carol concert in aid of the Cancer Relief Macmillan Fund in Westminster Abbey at 6.40.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Nero, 5th Roman emperor AD 54-68, Antium (Anzio), AD 37; George Romney, portrait painter, Dalton-on-Trent, Leicestershire, 1734; Charles Cowden Clarke, critic, Enfield, Middlesex, 1787; Alexandre-Gustave Eiffel, engineer, builder of the tower bearing his name, Dijon, 1832; Niels Finzen, physician, Nobel laureate 1903, Torshavn, Faeroe Islands, 1860; Josef Hoffmann, architect, Pirnitz, Czechoslovakia, 1870; Maxwell Anderson, dramatist, Atlantic, Pennsylvania, 1888.

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Mr Enoch Powell

The Leader of the Ulster Unionist Party and the Party were represented by Mr Enoch Powell, who was accompanied by the Recorder of the Recorder Mass for Sir John Biggs-Davison, MP, held on Tuesday in Westminster Cathedral.

Harrow School

The Winter Term at Harrow ends today. Lord and Lady Callaghan of Cardiff and Lady Soames attended Churchill Songs on December 2. The Cock House, which was won by Kenneth (Mr J. F. C. Gates) who beat Elmfield (Mr J. R. Beckett). The Torpid Final was drawn between West Acre (Mr J. D. Parry) and Bradys (Mr J. A. Smith). Next term begins on January 11.

MR BRYNMOR JOHN, MP Labour opponent of unilateral nuclear disarmament

Mr Brynmor John, Labour MP for Pontypridd since 1970, and a former Labour junior minister, died after a heart attack in St Thomas's Hospital, London, on December 13. He was 54.

ANDREW KENNEDY Undercover operations in wartime Eastern Europe

Andrew Kennedy, who died in Munich on December 1, aged 76, was a Pole who gave distinguished service in the Second World War, first in the Polish army and then in Britain's Special Operations Executive, and in this spirit of a physical disability which would have barred many a lesser spirit from such adventurous activities.

Latest wills

Sir Alec Arnold Constantine Isingonis, of Edgworth, Birmingham, car designer, left estate valued at £99,563 net.

Judge retires

Mr Justice Lately will retire from the High Court bench, Family Division, on January 10.

HERMÈS FOR HER PARIS advertisement featuring a perfume bottle and the brand name.

Lincoln's Inn

Judge Tjamen Koopmans, of the Court of Justice of the European Communities, is to be an honorary bencher of Lincoln's Inn.

Gray's Inn

Professor Beano Schmidt, President of Yale University, has been elected an honorary master of the bench of Gray's Inn.

Appointments

Mr A. E. S. Franks has succeeded Lord Bancroft as chairman of the management board of the Royal Hospital and Home, Putney.

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SCIENCE REPORT

Warming to seven brown dwarfs

The search for planets in orbit around stars other than the Sun and the quest for the 'dark matter' that many believe exists, unaccounted for in the Universe (Science Reports, December 5 and 8) takes another twist this week with the discovery of a dim star in orbit around a faint white dwarf star in the constellation of Bootes, a few degrees south of the red star Arcturus.

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THE ARTS

David Robinson can find very little festive cheer in the Christmas film releases

No star to follow

CINEMA

Just Ask For Diamond (U) Cannons Haymarket, Oxford Street, Chelsea

Like Father, Like Son (PG) Odeon Marble Arch, Cannon Pantom Street

Sunset (15) Cannon Pantom Street

Prisoner of Rio (15) Metro



Best of a bad bunch: Dursley McLinden as the eponymous sleuth Tim Diamond in Just Ask For Diamond

What became of Christmas? In olden times - three or four years ago - the distributors saved their brightest and best for the holiday business...

There are compensations. Just Ask For Diamond, even if it is artless and would have been better as a 30-minute spoof...

Tim Diamond (Dursley McLinden) has set up as Camden Town's Sam Spade after proving hopeless as a teenage police constable. The brains of the film is 13-year-old brother Nick (Colin Dale) who even has to explain the plot of Farewell My Lovely to Tim.

The slapstick is plodding, the movie-buff allusions will elude the juvenile audience, but the good humour is infectious...

Welsh comedy Coming Up Roses. More kids' stuff in Like Father, Like Son which - released in the United States more than a year ago - was one of the first and least imaginative of the father-son switch films.

Starting silly, it gets no better. Episode follows episode haphazardly as father winks his son's social reputation at school while the son does the same for his dad's job prospects.

central role. The director Rod Daniel made Teen Wolf. Blake Edwards's Sunset has a promising premise. In 1929, with silent pictures at last gasp, Tom Mix, the cowboy star, joins forces with real-life Marshal Wyatt Earp (James Garner, repeating his 1966 role in Hour of the Gun) to solve a Hollywood murder mystery.

Back from the brink and balancing books

Five years ago it was all over bar the shouting for Iggy Pop. "Systems of existence are built up on little habits, and I realized that my pile of little habits was simply not tenable..."

Iggy Pop tells David Sinclair why he has eschewed his rock 'n' roll craziness for sobriety and married life

and I know damn well how to present my point. I'm a pro and I always was. When Lenny Kaye reviewed my first album in Rolling Stone, when the term punk, relating to music, first appeared in print, he conjectured that the singer must only have a 70-word vocabulary...

about two creative minutes a day and I was not writing well any more. It was a mess. I knew I had to quit. Pop's stage behaviour had become increasingly irresponsible, to the point where accidents involving members of the audience were happening with alarming regularity.

life began to click." Pop and Sachi, who is now 27, married in 1985. At the end of 1986 Pop scored his first hit single with "Real Wild Child". He has returned to the fray this year with the much more powerful Instinct album and a show to match.



Life lines: Pop is a superfit 41-year-old

JAZZ

Posers for you

Micro Groove 100 Club

George Melly Ronnie Scott's Club

Is radio fair to jazz? The question was posed on Monday at the launch of a campaign by the Association of British Jazz Musicians. Experience shows it will be difficult to win over the broadcasters, but the concert at least was a showcase for the young musicians who will be jostling for air-space in years to come.

With the rhythm section underpinned by Jazz Warriors drummer Cheryl Alleyne, Stater took charge of the vocals, providing a bizarre running commentary interspersed with exhortations to get up and dance. His impersonation of Lou Rawls on "You'll Never Find Another Love Like Mine" simply defied description.

A b can

Advertisement for 'Higher Education' featuring a 'diary 1989' and 'EXCLUS DIARY OF' text.

Advertisement for Lloyds Bank Young Theatre Challenge National Theatre, featuring text about a 3-day showcase and the opportunity for young theatre companies.

Magnificent Tennessee

THEATRE

Orpheus Descending Theatre Royal Haymarket

After his odyssey through subsidized theatre, Peter Hall picks up the threads of his early career with a long delayed return to Tennessee Williams' Camino Real in 1957 and now Orpheus Descending - two magnificent productions of Williams' most ambitious and personal plays.

But the way in which each event locks into the next is at once unpredictable and inevitable. Alison Chitty sets the piece in a honeycomb of decaying timber.

A footloose outsider arrives in a small, bigoted community where he disturbs the status quo, for which he is destroyed. That is the archetypal Williams fable. But in no other play does he elaborate it with such social detail, such a sense of the past, or sustain such an equivoque of lyricism, brutality, and caricature within the same controlling metaphor.

Love and larceny

TELEVISION

Battlers of the sexes, it was revealed on television last night, have been getting the wrong end of the stick, not to say the bath. That talented, witty singer-songwriter of relaxed charm and easy-going mystery, Joan Armatrading told us in a teasingly interesting profile of her, Acoustic (Channel 4), that certain feminists were mistaken to see her song "(I Love It When You) Call Me Names" as a serious critique of a sadomasochistic relationship in which the man had the whip hand.

John Mortimer's brilliance is to take Example into situation comedy, sometimes almost into musical-hall, yet provide as much serious criticism of British justice as did Blind Justice. Yet, as I learnt when serving as a juror in front of a judge pilloried by the press even more than Featherstone, in real courts you get the music-hall without the serious criticism.

Andrew Hislop

THEATRE

Orpheus Descending Theatre Royal Haymarket

But the way in which each event locks into the next is at once unpredictable and inevitable. Alison Chitty sets the piece in a honeycomb of decaying timber. In Hall's hands, this set becomes an instrument, sometimes expressing everyday events, sometimes relict to enter the world of memory and oncoming disaster.

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Paul Gambaccini correctly confined most of his personal probing to the provenance of the songs, but the very surroundings of Armatrading's home invited questions. The neatly fenced paddocks full of horses provided a setting which seems less appropriate for hard

Advertisement for Foyles Art Gallery featuring artist Christel Weingart and Jim Reynolds.

Advertisement for Spink Silver & Jewellery.

BOOKS

A brief candle

Peter Ackroyd on the life and vanishing fame of a professional writer of middling talent, who never quite made it to major

Oblivion is a peculiar thing. Some writers, who do not merit it at all, receive it almost as soon as they are dead; some even seem to recognize their fate in advance, and remain modest or melancholy, sensing that whatever success they enjoy will not last. Joyce Cary has just escaped this fate — but only just. He is at least still in print, and here is a biography 20 years after his death. Already the reviewers are saying that he is "undervalued" — of course he is, but that makes very little difference since few people will be reading his novels in future years, and I suspect that this substantial and meticulous biography will convert only the already converted.

The lack of attention really is a mystery in Cary's case, since he had all the makings of a "major writer". He was of Anglo-Irish descent, and Brendan Behan's remark that an Anglo-Irishman is "a Protestant on a horse" might have been coined for Joyce Cary himself (the peculiar Christian name, by the way, is simply his mother's surname — indicating, among other things, that James Joyce was a distant kinsman). Certainly he liked at times to think of himself as a "man of action", but he possessed also that lean, quizzical, and slightly haunted look that seems so characteristic of the Anglo-Irish.

He attended Clifton College, where the Christian and imperial ethic was hammered into him; but at first he wanted to be an artist, and he studied both in Paris and in Edinburgh. At Oxford University he led a suitably unhappy and undistinguished life, and it is really only when he volunteered for the Red Cross during the First Balkan War that he first comes to life in this book — striding into danger as he did and, indeed, seeming to relish the situation. Even then he had dreams of becoming a writer, but other demands exerted their toll, and instead, he became a junior administrator in northern Nigeria. There were times when he hated the solitude and dreary monotony of this raw

colonial life, but the business of making maps, building roads, and constructing bridges seemed to console him. He had in any case left a wife and child in England, and he needed the money to support this exiled family. Any yet, and yet... he wanted to be a writer. It is the same familiar but terrible story of ambitions thwarted and gifts unemployed — "I can't do anything, I don't believe — sometimes I don't believe that I ever will do anything."

Eventually in 1920 he returned to England and, at the age of 31, he finally embarked upon the perilous career of the professional writer. It was in fact the right time: he was of an appropriate age to begin, and his experiences in Africa could only serve to extend and deepen the range of his imagination.

Nevertheless he did not succeed at first, and the battle financially to survive was matched only by his struggle to find an appropriate voice and form. Even some years after he began seriously to write, Cary suffered the same lack of confidence together with the same muddled aspirations.

Even his process of composition seems chaotic in the extreme — he worked on different novels at the same time. At first his writing was too much in the head — he had read widely from Hegel to Stuart Mill as if in preparation for some great intellectual rather than creative adventure, and for him the art of fiction was always a matter of theme rather than of plot, of meaning rather than of story.

His prose style was distinct, therefore, without being wholly distinctive. And in that sense this modest and competent biography gives a proper measure of the man as he approached middle age. One reads it with interest, but at no point does the life of Joyce Cary suggest anything other than a writer of talent finding his way through the world. Of course there are moments of sudden and unpredictable behaviour — his decision to go to the front during the Balkan War being one — and it is



GLYNN BOYD HARTE

clear that he had a fascination with violence and conflict which in turn suggests a wish for self-forgetfulness, for the temporary abeyance of those internal conflicts which his biographer describes as his "duality".

He began to achieve success in the mid-Thirties (just as he was about to enter his own 50s). The trilogy, *Herself Surprised*, *To be a Pilgrim*, and *The Horse's Mouth* brought him his first real fame. But still he did not seem able to curb his restless energy and his nervous straining towards "significance", even while he was writing novels he was composing political pamphlets, working on film-scripts, and taking extended trips over the world. All these things detracted from his creative development, and there is nothing more indicative of the man than the almost self-

congratulatory description of "my tons of unfinished and unpublished MSS". There seems to be a sense in which he did not know what kind of writer he wanted to be.

That is why even at the end of this well-documented biography the personality of Joyce Cary seems blurred, out of focus. If he emerges at all, it is in a curiously unsympathetic light. Either he seemed to do what was expected of him, whether as a typical young "Bohemian" in Paris or as a colonial administrator in Nigeria, or he did what he thought he expected of himself. So he seems always to be taking on roles, starting them and then breaking off just as he did with his own written works. In fact it is his death, greeted by him with fortitude and serenity, which provides the most moving and somehow most genuine passage of his life. How doubly sad, therefore, that this should herald the end of Joyce Cary's fame.

Playful poet: manic despair

POETRY

Robert Nye

APRIL GALLEONS
By John Ashbery
Carcant, £8.95

A poem by John Ashbery is like a house full of rooms and the rooms full of fashionable furniture and the furniture all breaking or disappearing as the reader-visitor tries to sit on it only to find himself deposited through a trapdoor or a time-war into another room in perhaps a different house, yet with the same charmingly pointless world view out of the window. Tricks and traps, mirrors and echoes, images that are ghosts of images that have gone before, jokes and games, illusions, allusions: it all comes crowding together in such a parade of unmitigated American High Camp that one can well believe that there are those who find the guy unreadable. This could be considered a pity. Whatever else he might be, Ashbery is a consistently funny writer, his best line the patter of a magician desperate to tell himself how he does it:

Let's start in the middle, as usual. Ever since I burnt my mouth I talk two ways, first as reluctant explainer, then as someone offstage. In a dream, hushing those who might wake you from this dream, Imperfectly got up as a humanist...

That humanist demonstrates his imperfections rather too frequently in the title piece and some of the other "typical" efforts collected in *April Galleons* — but the reluctant explainer is as hypnotically plausible as ever. Ashbery's work intrigues because it concentrates a playfully profound imagination upon the whole problem of meaning and identity, and comes up with no answers, only alternative questions in the form of verse that in a sense replaces the joys and anxieties that inspired it.

He has been compared with Wallace Stevens, hailed even as a "philosophical" thinker. I regard this as a serious misrepresentation of his gifts. An English reader of this most brilliant and eccentric of living and working American poets is more likely to be reminded of Edward Lear: there is a similar manic despair informing Ashbery's flights of fancy, though

he doesn't have anything like the Victorian's ear

It would be hard to imagine a world farther removed from Ashbery's than that which provides the subject for investigation in Stanley Cook's *Selected Poems 1972-86* (Littlewood Press, £3). I first noticed Cook's merits some 16 years ago when he published a pamphlet called *Form Photograph* in the front of which he observed that as a schoolteacher for many years he had discovered that he was teaching the same children all the time, only they passed themselves off under different names. That might sound obvious, as does his claim that he is simply writing down accurately what he has observed; but listen to this: "Of course you have observed inaccurately and the inaccurate recording of the distinctive inaccuracies of which you are unaware is the theme of your poems."

When I read that, I sat up and took notice, and it's good to be able to report that Cook's subsequent work seems if anything to be even more interesting, since in addition to concentrating on the difference between one 12-year-old bit of human kind and another he is now also raising his eyes to the skyline and writing poems about everything he sees — the landscape and the people of his own particular Northern English patch. I only wish that he would eschew the prosiness of some of his longer pieces, and write more often in the formal measure he employs so well in "Privet Hedge".

*The privet looks over the real wall
Like children for toys left out in the street
For people passing or workmen
to watch
When their game in the garden grows too small.*

GENTLEMAN RIDER
A biography of Joyce Cary
By Alan Bishop
Michael Joseph, £19.95

NEW BOOKS

- The Literary Editor's selection of novels of the year (alphabetically):
A Far Cry from Kinsington, by Muriel Spark (Constable, £9.95)
An Adultery, by Alexander Theroux (Hamish Hamilton, £12.95)
Difficulties with Girls, by Kingsley Amis (Hutchinson, £11.95)
Interior, by Julian Cartwright (Hamish Hamilton, £11.95)
King Ludd, by Andrew Sinclair (Hodder & Stoughton, £11.95)
Latecomers, by Anita Brookner (Cape, £10.95)
Leader of the Band, by Fay Weldon (Hodder & Stoughton, £10.95)
Libra, by Don DeLillo (Viking, £11.95)
Loving and Giving, by Molly Keane (André Deutsch, £10.95)
Mother London, by Michael Moorcock (Secker & Warburg, £9.95)
Nice Work, by David Lodge (Secker & Warburg, £10.95)
Oscar and Lucinda, by Peter Carey (Faber, £10.95)
Out of this World, by Graham Swift (Viking, £10.95)
S, by John Updike (André Deutsch, £10.95)
Second Fiddle, by Mary Wesley (Macmillan, £10.95)
The Beginning of Spring, by Penelope Fitzgerald (Heinemann, £10.95)
The Bonfire of the Vanities, by Tom Wolfe (Cape, £12.95)
The Fifth Child, by Doris Lessing (Cape, £9.95)
The Lost Father, by Marina Warner (Chatto & Windus, £11.95)
The Lyne of Orpheus, by Robertson Davies (Viking, £11.95)
The Satanic Verses, by Salman Rushdie (Viking, £12.95)
The Truth about Lorin Jones, by Alison Lurie (Michael Joseph, £11.95)
The Woman who was God, by Francis King (Hutchinson, £10.95)
Utz, by Bruce Chatwin (Cape, £9.95)
Who Killed Palomino Molero?, by Mario Vargas Llosa (Faber, £9.95)

Any historical work with a subtitle like *The Untold Story* is apt to be suspect; and when it is added to a main title that is as all embracing as *WORLD WAR II*, it becomes a contradiction in terms if the book is only 300 pages long. There is always the possibility that the author has unearthed some large nugget of new evidence that overturns the generally accepted view of events; but the suspicion is that he or his publisher is using journalistic licence for publicity purposes.

Philip Warner has, indeed, picked up a potentially valuable nugget, which has been lying unworked, and ready for a revisionist historian to grasp, ever since the publication earlier this year of the last volume of Professor Sir Harry Hinsley's official history of *British Intelligence in the Second World War*. As Warner says in his introduction, the disclosure of Ultra in 1974 made every previous history out of date. There is an obvious gap in the market that could be exploited by any author who could make full use of the new intelligence evidence now available by writing a revised short history of the war.

Philip Warner looks just the man for the job. He is an experienced military writer with some 18 titles under his belt. But he has set himself the immense, if not impossible, task of spanning the whole of the five-year struggle from the Atlantic to the Pacific in one modest volume. In trying to crystallize the events into his

Very little light

William Jackson

WORLD WAR II
The Untold Story
By Philip Warner
The Bodley Head, £12.95

limited space, while at the same time adding the new Intelligence gloss, he has made the campaigns almost unrecognizable, and his accounts of them are marred by glaring omissions and unfortunate inaccuracies.

If a Staff College instructor were to mark his work, his comments would be: "Concept excellent; execution fair." He would then add, "I see in your bibliography no reference to the readily available British, American, and Dominion official histories, which are basic to your study." What seems to have let Warner down is his failure to appreciate that, in writing the *Intelligence History*, Professor Hinsley's team gave only an outline of operational events to avoid duplication with the *Grand Strategy* and *Theatre* series of the

British official histories. All three have to be read together, if a new and credible short history of the war is to be written.

There is another factor that militates against any startling revelations by revisionists like Philip Warner. The radical changes, which the new Intelligence data make necessary in earlier accounts of the war, are far fewer than might be expected, because the authors of the operational official histories had full access to the actual intelligence summaries available to commanders at the time. The phrase "from higher sources" was the coded reference to Ultra. It is hardly surprising, therefore, that he has been hard put to it to justify the subtitle to his book — there is not much untold still to tell.

The best parts of Warner's book are his descriptions of the conditions under which the civilian populations, as well as the military, played their parts. Being a young man at the time, he has been able to recreate the atmosphere of those days: the phoney war, the London blitz, the V-1 and V-2 onslaughts, the convoys at sea, and the feel of the battles on land, sea, and in the air. But he misses the effect of the intelligence histories on the controversial issues of the war.

In short, Philip Warner has produced a plausible and easily read book, but he has made little or no contribution to a fresh understanding of the Second World War.

Saturday Books Page: Ardagh on France, portraits by Roy Jenkins, crime, paperbacks

IS IT FAIR

that man should monopolise such words as argument, elementary, hymn?
In all justice arguwoment, elewomentary and hermn would be more suitable says

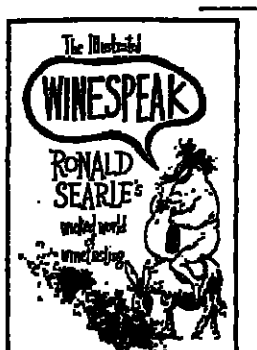
RONALD SEARLE

in his
NON-SEXIST DICTIONARY

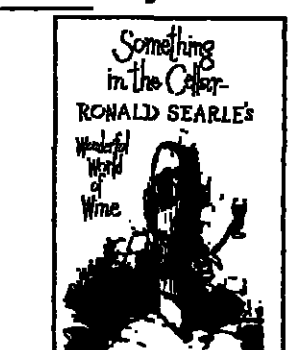
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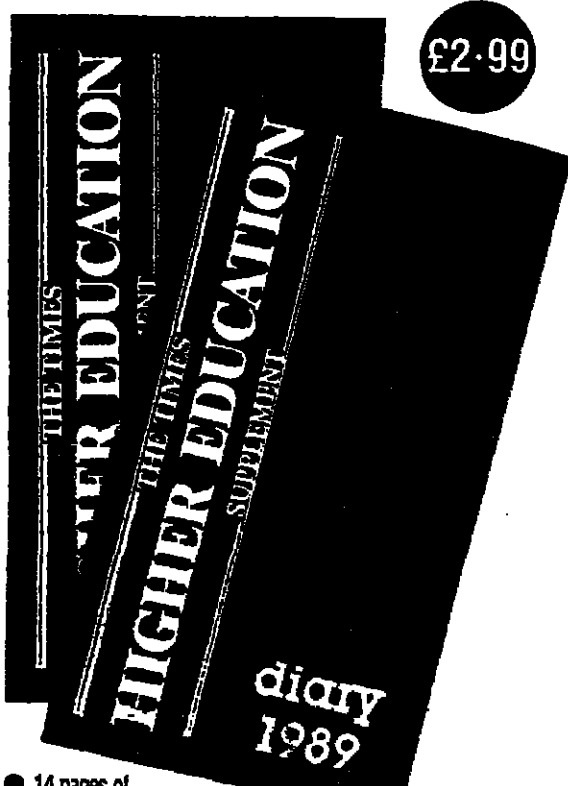
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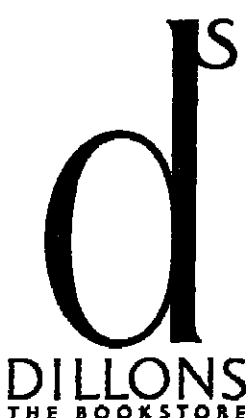
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INFORMATION SERVICE

This selective guide to entertainment and events throughout Britain appears from Monday to Friday, followed in the Review section on Saturday by a preview of the week ahead. Items should be sent to The Times Information Service, PO Box 7, 1 Virginia Street, London E1 9XN

BOOKING KEY
* Seats available
* Returns only
(D) Access for disabled

THEATRE LONDON

BLOOD BROTHERS: Wily Russell's sentimental musical...
EASY VIRTUE: Attractive revival of Noel Coward's 1920 play...
ELECTRA: Sophisticated drama of the fierce daughter in Sophocles' sober drama...

OUT OF TOWN

CROYDON: Rolster Dolan: Vince Foxhall regals the old comedy for Christmas...
MANCHESTER: The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn: Musical version by Roger Haines with Paul Ryan as the first boy-hero to smoke a pipe...

FILMS

Also on national release as Advance booking possible

GOOD MORNING, VIETNAM (15): Robin Williams in a military comedy about a DJ sent to Vietnam to keep up the morale of the troops...
MIDNIGHT RUN (15): Engaging comedy-thriller, with Robert de Niro as a bounty hunter given the job of taking a sensitive bail-jumping accountant cross-country...



Anthony Newley (above) started out as a boy actor, playing the Artful Dodger in the David Lean film Oliver Twist, then went on to star in revue, in his offbeat, ahead-of-his-time TV show Gurney Slade and in his own musicals. Stop the World I Want to Get Off was a success in the West End. The Road of the Greenpaint, the Smell of the Crowd, set in a circus, toured the country in the Sixties, played on Broadway but only now comes to London, opening at the Orange Tree Theatre in Richmond tonight (see listing).

Squeezing into stardom



The celebrity who opens the Circus, Circus exhibition at the Theatre Museum in Covent Garden today will make a big impression... with her nose. The museum's corridor of fame features the painted handprints of the theatrically famous, but if Rani the elephant were to contribute a footprint, it would obliterate several stars. So to squeeze in, between Dame Peggy Ashcroft and Sir John Gielgud, Rani will make her mark with her trunk. Rani, who will be appearing with Gerry Cottle's Circus at Wembley from Christmas Eve, was given clearance for her central London appearance because of an impeccable record of public performance, which includes appearing as a Lancer Party ally with Ken Livingstone and opening more church fetes than the cast of Endgame. The exhibition she opens today is replete with circus memorabilia, including Bertram Mill's posters, Ringling Brothers' prints, sealions' horn sets, clowns' costumes and pictures of equestrian exercises from the Cirque Olympique (left), a French circus of the 1860s. Theatre Museum, Covent Garden WC1 (01-589 6371), is open 11am to 7pm Tuesday to Sunday (closed Monday). Admission £2.25, children aged 5 to 14 and OAPs £1.25, children under five free. On December 31 and January 1, children will be admitted free. Until April 2. Robin Young

Plaza (01-200 0200), Progs 1.40, 4.00, 6.30, 9.00. Late Fri, Sat 11.30. Cannon Fulham Rd (01-370 2636), Progs 2.30, 5.30, 8.15, Late Fri, Sat 11.00. Cannon Fulham Rd (01-370 2636), Progs 2.00, 6.00, 9.00. Cannon Fulham Rd (01-370 2636), Progs 1.05, 3.30, 5.55, Late Fri, Sat 11.15. Cannon Shaftesbury Ave (01-836 8881), Progs 1.00 (not Sun), 3.30, 6.00, 8.30.

WILLOW (PG): Costly medieval fantasy from George Lucas, about an evil queen's reign of terror and an earnest midwife's mission to save the infant princess. Directed by Ron Howard; with Val Kilmer, Joanne Whalley, Warwick Davis, (126 min), Progs 12.30, 3.10, 6.00, 8.40, Late Fri, Sat 11.30. Cannon Fulham Rd (01-370 2636), Progs 2.20, 5.10, 8.05, 10.10, Late Fri, Sat 11.15. Wembley West End (01-439 0791), Progs 12.45 (not Sun), 3.20, 5.55, 8.30, Late Fri, Sat 11.15.

CHRIST'S CHILDHOOD: Sir Charles Groves conducts the Halle Orchestra, Choir and soloists in Bernard's L'Enfance de Christ. Free Trade Hall, Peter St, Manchester (061 834 1712), 7.30pm, 22.50-£14.

THREE QUARTETS: The Arditi Quartet gives the world premiere of Richard Garcia's Quartet, a BBC commission, the UK premiere of the revised version of Peter Paul Nash's Quartet and plays Anthony Gilbert's Quartet No 3. Concert Hall, Broadcasting House, London W1, 7.30pm, free.

MORE JULLIARD: For their second Wigmore Street concert in two days the

STATUS QUO: Pop-rock lunkheads who have given the noble art of boogie an enduring bad name. Birmingham (021 780 4133) 8pm, 23-£10.

SAXES UNLIMITED: Inspired by Med Flory's American band Supersax, the nine-piece re-creates the music of Charles Mingus, Duke Ellington, Stan Getz and the World Saxophone Quartet. Manchester (061 832 6825) doors open 8.30pm, £3.

STILL RELUCTANT: The Reluctant (and irresistible) Revue Company conducts The Philharmonia in Schoenberg's Ganesse Prelude and Erwartung (Susan Armstrong, soprano), Wagner's Die Walkure (London W1 (01-636 2141), 7.30-9.25.

THE PEARL FISHERS: Philip Prowse designs and directs his successful Bizet production first seen at English National Opera, Anne Dawson and Arthur Davies lead the cast. Grand Theatre, Leeds, (0532 459351), 7.15-9.45pm, £4-£18.75.

NATALIE COLE: Seasoned soul singer who borrowed Springsteen's 'Pink Cadillac'. Hammerstein Odeon, Queen Caroline St, London W1 (01-748 4081), 7.30pm, £10.50-£12.50. Two nights.

SIXONS AND THE BANHSHEES: Frosty punkette, currently going through a horror fantasy stage with the Peepshow album. Britton Academy, 211 Stockwell Road, London SW9 (01-326 1022), 7.30pm, £7.50.

BRYAN FERRY: Seventies style-counselor and Roky Moxley front man, still a notoriously smooth operator. London Palladium, 8 Argyll Street, W1 (01-773 7373), 7.30pm, £12.50-£15, for two nights.

CONCERTS: MESSIAEN CONTINUES: In a further instalment of her Messiaen organ series Gillian Weir plays her Les Corps Separés. Royal Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-428 8800), 5.55-6.55pm, £4.50.

CHRYSTAL BALL: The Arditi Quartet gives the world premiere of Richard Garcia's Quartet, a BBC commission, the UK premiere of the revised version of Peter Paul Nash's Quartet and plays Anthony Gilbert's Quartet No 3. Concert Hall, Broadcasting House, London W1, 7.30pm, free.

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WALKS

INNS OF COURT AND OLD BAILEY: meet Temple tube, 10.30am, £3 (01-637 4291). ARISTOCRATIC LONDON: meet Green Park tube, 2.30pm, £3 (01-937 4281).

OTHER EVENTS

BLOOMSBURY BOOK AUCTIONS: The last sale of 1988 includes many unusual manuscripts and autograph material such as letters by Alfred de Vigny, Sir Edward Elgar, Benjamin Britten and Dowland. Also some rare French and English first editions. Bloomsbury Book Auction, 3 & 4 Hardwick St, London, EC1 (01-833 2636). Sale 1pm, viewing 9.30am-1pm, from 10.30am-11.30am. Admission free. Catalogue £2.50.

DANCE

THE SNOW QUEEN: Binyon's adaptation of Hans Andersen's story, for Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet. Sadler's Wells Theatre, Rosebery Avenue, London EC1 (01 278 8916), 7.30-10.20pm, Special Gala Prices.

GALLERIES

ANDRZEJ KRAUZE: Drawings, posters and watercolours. Swire Fine Art, 106 Kensington Park Road, London W11 (01-727 5453), Tues-Sat noon-7pm, free, until Dec 31.

BOOKINGS

FIRST CHANCE

SADLER'S WELLS ROYAL BALLET: Royal Opera House season includes world premiere of Hobson's Choice by David Bintley based on Harold

LAST CHANCE

CARIBBEAN CONNECTIONS: Photos and artefacts from 18 young Londoners who visited St Vincent and the Grenadines on Caribbean Development

ART GALLERIES

FINE ART SOCIETY, 148 New Bond St, W1 (01-636 6116). MICKEY ROONEY: 'After 14 months of touring, Mickey Rooney is back in London with his new show 'MICKEY ROONEY'...

CINEMAS

CAN-CAN: 'A musical extravaganza with a cast of 100...'

THE MOUSETRAP: 'A comedy about a man who is trapped in a mousetrap...'

THE ENEMY OF THE PEOPLE: 'A play about a doctor who is accused of covering up a scandal...'

THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA: 'A musical about a man who is hidden in the walls of an opera house...'

THE WIZARD OF OZ: 'A musical about a young girl who is taken to a magical land...'

THE DRY ROT: 'A play about a man who is rotting from the inside...'

THE RELAPSE: 'A play about a man who is struggling with his addiction...'

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THE WIZARD OF OZ: 'A musical about a young girl who is taken to a magical land...'

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 1746

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down. Clues include: 1 Principled (10), 8 Barkless dog (7), 9 Appellation (5), 10 Bargain (4), 11 Serious, thoughtful (8), 13 Thin, weakly (5), 14 Cringingly flatters (5), 16 Improving (8), 18 Increase (4), 21 Gain knowledge (5), 22 Tender void (7), 23 Unsweetened biscuit (4,6). Down: 1 Antagonistic (7), 2 Not any (4), 3 Not meant (13), 4 Heretic burning (4-2-2), 5 House-busy (5), 6 Sacred wader (4), 7 Against (6), 12 Grape plant (8), 13 Fighter (7), 17 Play (5), 19 Methods (4), 20 Eastern Europe (4).

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 24. MESSIAEN: (a) A vine, especially one made in two parts, from the Old French messiaen; (b) This piece, called the 'Messiaen', was more generally known in England as the 'vestibule or vine', was pierced for both sight and breathing. FISHTAIL: (a) To swing a car, motorcycle, etc. from side to side at the rear, as some fish wobble their tails for propulsion; (b) 'Catching his tail' - a fish that is spinning or rearing up to fish-tail, that is swing back and forth.

WINNING MOVE

The above position is taken from the game between Staunton (White) and Harrison (Black), played in London 1840. White, to move, wins. The winning move will be given in tomorrow's Times.

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ENTERTAINMENTS

Entertainment listings for various venues including Royal Festival Hall, Apollo Theatre, and others. Includes details for 'Thrilling', 'Electrifying', 'Magnificent', 'Outstanding', and 'Arthur Miller's adaptation of The People'.

THEATRES

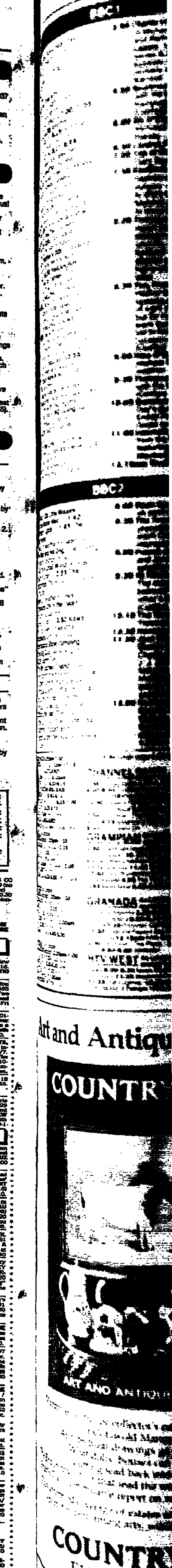
Theatre listings for venues like Adelphi, Apollo, and others. Includes details for 'The Sneeze', 'Blood Brothers', 'The Nutcracker', and 'The Wizard of Oz'.

CONCERTS

Concert listings for venues like Apollo, Royal Festival Hall, and others. Includes details for 'The Sneeze', 'Blood Brothers', and 'The Nutcracker'.

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 1746

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down. Clues include: 1 Principled (10), 8 Barkless dog (7), 9 Appellation (5), 10 Bargain (4), 11 Serious, thoughtful (8), 13 Thin, weakly (5), 14 Cringingly flatters (5), 16 Improving (8), 18 Increase (4), 21 Gain knowledge (5), 22 Tender void (7), 23 Unsweetened biscuit (4,6). Down: 1 Antagonistic (7), 2 Not any (4), 3 Not meant (13), 4 Heretic burning (4-2-2), 5 House-busy (5), 6 Sacred wader (4), 7 Against (6), 12 Grape plant (8), 13 Fighter (7), 17 Play (5), 19 Methods (4), 20 Eastern Europe (4).



TELEVISION AND RADIO

Compiled by Peter Dear and Jane Rackham

BBC1

- 6.00 Ceefax AM. News headlines, weather, travel and sports bulletins.
6.30 Leon Errol in Truth Aches.
6.55 Weather.
7.00 Breakfast Time with John Stapleton and Sally Jones.

ITV/LONDON

- 6.00 TV-am begins with News and The Morning Programme.
7.00 The Bottom Line. Consumer affairs show.
7.30 Chain Letters. Word game.
8.00 The Real WPC Accident spots.

BBC2

- 9.00 Ceefax 1.25 Little Misses and the Mister Men (1).
9.00 Open Space. A documentary on post-racial depression.
9.30 The Travel Show.
9.50 French and Saunders. Dawn and Jennifer's world.

CHANNEL 4

- 12.00 The Parliament Programme presented by Glyn Matthews and Alastair Stewart.
12.30 Business Daily. Financial and business news service.
1.00 Sesame Street.

In sickness and in health



Genni and Kim Batterham, whose devotion to each other has endured despite their appalling circumstances (C4, 10.30pm)

There must have been dozens of television documentaries about multiple sclerosis but none has brought home the impact of the disease more graphically than Riding the Gale (Channel 4, 10.30pm).

sentimental and frank. We cannot help but admire Genni's courage but her tears are born of genuine pain and she has often been to the brink of despair.

Peter Waymark

Radio 3

- 6.55 Weather, followed by News Headlines.
7.00 Morning Concert: Rimsky Korsakov (Capriccio espagnole), St. Angeles PO under Jesus Lopez-Cobos.

WORLD SERVICE

- All times in GMT.
2.00-7.00 News followed by World Service.
7.00-7.30 News.
7.30-8.00 World Service.

RADIO CHOICE

- 4.35 Kaleidoscope (r).
5.00 PM: Presented by Frances Coverdale and Robert Line.
6.00 News: Weather, Financial Report.

CHRISTMAS VIDEO advertisement for Techno. Features images of Sony V90, Canon E70, JVC GR-45, and Panasonic M7 camcorders. Text includes 'Techno bulk purchase of Pro specification 8mm camcorder saves £300! 440,000 pixels CCD, 1/2000th sec shutter, 7 lux low-light operation. Last focus price £1499. Free tapes worth £35! £1199'.

BC1 WALES 6.30pm-7.00. Includes listings for Wales, Scotland, and other regional programs.

VARIOUS listings for different regions including Yorkshire, Tynes Tees, Ulster, and others.

Art and Antiques Number COUNTRY LIFE EVERY THURSDAY. Advertisement for a special issue of Country Life magazine featuring art and antiques. Includes an image of a cow and text about 'Maggie, eccentric or collector's collector? Dark Corners of a Cotswold Manor explored'.

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Thatcher adds support to Armenian aid



A giant Russian-built Antonov 124 being loaded at Heathrow airport yesterday before leaving for Moscow with emergency aid for Armenian earthquake victims.

By Andrew Billen
Arist Correspondent

The Prime Minister yesterday sent a message of support to the organizers of Saturday's "Musicians for Armenia" concert at the Barbican Hall, London.

In a letter which will appear as a foreword to the official programme, Mrs Margaret Thatcher says: "I am very grateful to all those who have so generously agreed to take part in this concert to raise money for the

victims of the terrible earthquake in Armenia.

"We are all united in our support for them. The response of the British public has been one of great warmth and generosity, providing help and urgently needed supplies of every sort. I am sure this concert will mean that response will be even more generous. It shows that a great tragedy can help bring people together so that they stretch out the hand of friendship across the East-West divide."

Mrs Thatcher is away from London on Saturday but the Government will be represented by Sir Geoffrey Howe, Foreign Secretary.

He will join Mr Leonid Zanzvatin, the Soviet Ambassador, and Mr Nikolai Fedosov, his cultural attaché. Mr David Sigall, chairman of the British Association of Concert Agents, yesterday said that financial contributions from his members and their clients had taken the association's Armenia appeal to more than £170,000. Contributions include

£100,000 from RCA Victor, which is releasing a record and video of the concert, from which royalties will go to the appeal. The concert, which is being sponsored by *The Times*, begins at 11pm and will be broadcast live on BBC 2 and Radio 3.

The programme includes Beethoven's Coriolan Overture conducted by André Previn with the English Chamber Orchestra; James Galway playing Debussy's *Syrinx*; Mstislav Rostropovich, playing Villa-Lobos' *Bachianas Brasileiras No. 1*, and

accompanying Galina Vishnevskaya, his wife in songs by Tchaikovsky, Vladimir Ashkenazy and Sir Yehudi Menuhin are among musicians who are to broadcast messages of support.

Tickets are available from £10 (including donation) from the Barbican booking office (01-638 8891). Sponsorship inquiries should be directed to Mr Joeke van Walsum, chairman of the organizing committee, on 01-741 5861.

The devastation, page 9

Lawson expected to stay as Chancellor after a reshuffle

By Philip Webster
Chief Political Correspondent

Senior ministers believe there is a growing likelihood that Mr Nigel Lawson will stay on as Chancellor of the Exchequer after Mrs Margaret Thatcher carries out her expected large mid-term reshuffle next autumn.

The recent conventional wisdom at Westminster that Mr Lawson will go next year because of his difficulties over

welfare benefits, his differences with the Prime Minister and the emergency interest rate action forced on him by the massive trade deficit, is being challenged by some of the Chancellor's senior Cabinet colleagues.

They believe that Mr Lawson, who they see as an intensely proud man, will want to stay on rather than go out on a low note after a highly successful term as Chancellor. Although they are confident the economy will be back on

course by next summer, senior ministers believe it could be some time after then that the full benefits of the recent corrective action taken by the Government will be obvious to the country and MPs.

Mrs Thatcher had been expected to break the logjam at the top of her Cabinet by shuffling the top three posts, Chancellor, Foreign Secretary and Home Secretary, next year. But senior ministers believe that if Mr Lawson lets it be known that he wants to

stay on to complete the tasks he has set himself, it would be politically impossible for Mrs Thatcher to remove him against his will, or indeed would want to oust the man she and her colleagues regard as the best Chancellor the Government has at its disposal.

Her room for manoeuvre would be severely constrained. Mr Lawson is not felt to want to become Foreign Secretary. Doubts over Mr Lawson's

long-term future grew over the last two months when he was embroiled in a row over a briefing he gave to political correspondents which resulted in extended means-testing of pensioners' benefits.

Differences earlier in the year with Mrs Thatcher over the exchange rate policy and the news that Sir Alan Walters was to return to Downing Street next year as Mrs Thatcher's adviser reinforced the view among Conser-

vatives that Mr Lawson would be relieved to return to the backbenches and take a job in the City.

The recent succession of rises in interest rates, leading to mortgage rate increases more than cancelling out earlier tax cuts, have also taken the glitter off Mr Lawson's successful tenure of the Treasury, and harmed his reputation for competence. Cabinet sources are optimistic that Mr Lawson will not have to increase interest rates again.

£500,000 adverts for eggs

Continued from page 1
infected with salmonella had already cost the taxpayer £500,000 and could cost £10 million to £20 million if the dramatic slump in demand for eggs forced the ministry to start culling flocks and compensating farmers.

Mr Paul Marland, the Conservative MP for West Gloucestershire, who has already called for Mrs Currie's dismissal, said that a £500,000 campaign did not amount to much set against the back-

ground of 10,000 egg industry workers facing the sack by Christmas.

"I don't think the ad is going to do any good. It's a public information activity rather than anything else. The damage has been done."

The advertisement will point out that eggs are a valuable and nutritious part of a balanced diet and that, in normal circumstances, Britons consume 30 million a day.

"The number of reported cases of food poisoning from

salmonella linked to eggs is very small by comparison with the huge numbers of eggs that are consumed", it says.

"So far this year there have been 49 reported outbreaks of salmonella traced back to eggs. These outbreaks have affected 1,000 people, but this underestimates the numbers."

Sales have plummeted by at least 60 per cent since Mrs Currie's remarks. More than 300 million eggs remain unsold.

Leading article, page 17

Mappa Mundi hope

By Craig Seton

The authorities of Hereford Cathedral have held talks with a consortium suggesting millions of pounds could be raised by selling shares in the 13th Century Mappa Mundi.

The Dean of Hereford, the Very Reverend Peter Haynes, has also held discussions with a solicitor representing several wealthy clients, who want to discuss saving the map for the nation before it is auctioned at Sotheby's in June.

Canon John Tiller, the

Chancellor of the Cathedral, said yesterday that the consortium had suggested selling several thousand high-quality reproductions of the map to shareholders to help raise the £7 million needed for the cathedral's financial future.

Canon Tiller said: "On that basis the map would stay in Hereford, but would be presented to the public in a much more marketable way as a treasure."

Collections alarm, page 5

US urges Israeli pull-out

Continued from page 1

General Walters urged the UN to tell the parties involved that their dispute was resolvable. "We are tired of this conflict and tired of their unwillingness to make fair compromises. We must tell them that the time has come to agree that a negotiated settlement is required."

His speech, made 24 hours after the appearance at the UN of Mr Yassir Arafat, the chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization, was

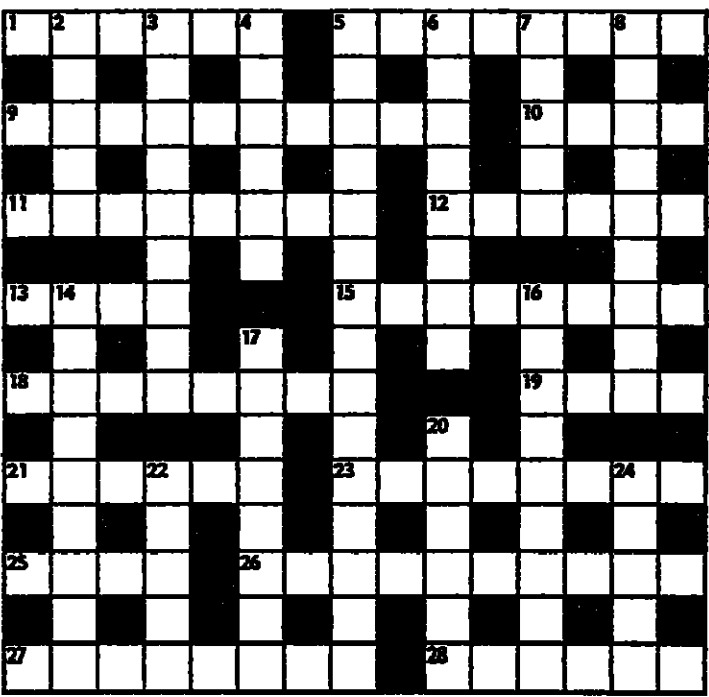
firmer in its attitude to Israel than had been expected. It came amid favourable reactions to Mr Arafat's speech from all quarters except Jerusalem, Washington and radical Palestinian groups. Most capitals, including London, were impressed by Mr Arafat's apparent attempts to steer the PLO towards moderation.

Diplomatic sources said that the importance of General Walters' words lay in their timing. Washington has always supported UN Resolu-

tion 242, which calls on Israel to withdraw from the occupied territories, but by repeating its position at the special UN session he implied that Washington would not support Jerusalem's refusal to talk to the PLO. His speech partly offset a reaction to the speech by the US State Department, which said that while the tone of Mr Arafat's address was "an improvement", the PLO leader did not "clearly and unambiguously" address US demands.

Matthew Parris

THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 17,853



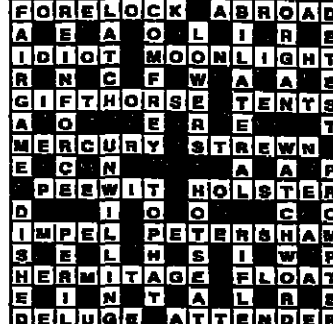
WORD-WATCHING

A daily safari through the language jungle. Which of the possible definitions is correct?

By Philip Howard

- ACROSS**
- Walpole nominated as poet (6).
 - Reform die in order to set up concert hall (5).
 - A raw quarter-back who tackled the Trojans (8).
 - Joiner appears before lunch, by George! (9).
 - Revolutionary time not apt for trial (10).
 - Computer for better transport (4).
 - Refreshment for the gallery (8).
 - Dutch sender carries little weight at the Bar (6).
 - "Hollow pampers' d Jades of _____" (2 Her. 17) (4).
 - Satellite winged for an Apollo mission (8).
 - Master desire to be impetuous (8).
 - Female not quite county (4).
 - Reckoning say the value of Richard's kingdom (6).
 - Spin out elegant composition above love (8).
 - Kitchener would have held one to be most important (4).
 - Relating to the order in which flags should be placed (10).
 - He got MP confused with a witty remark (8).
 - Divisions hoisted initially under canvas (6).
- DOWN**
- Failing by a point to pass (6).
 - Is this the attraction of Polar bears? (6,9).
 - You need the right numbers for this children's game (5).
 - Cut out of the middle of Hereford (9).
 - Powerboat with finnets? (9).
 - Greyish plant on the lawn (4-5).
 - Wrong river for this reptile (8).
 - Rustic skill producing capital part (6).
 - No good having female in group (5).
 - Realism is the beauty of Keats (5).

Solution to Puzzle No 17,852



WEATHER

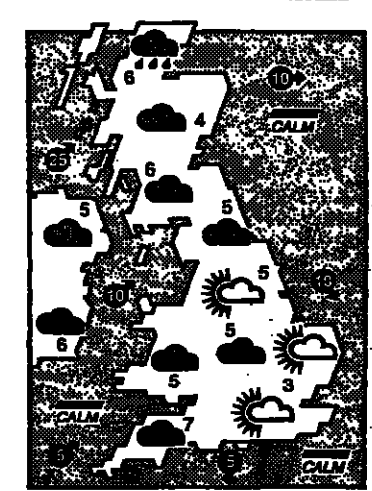
Mild and bright after early fog in south and east England. Cloudy, dry in the southwest and south Wales. Cloud and rain in north west Scotland reaching Northern Ireland, northern England and North Wales by midnight. Outlook: cooler with night frost. Sunny intervals and showers.

ABROAD		AROUND BRITAIN	
Min	Max	Sea	Wind
Algeria 16 61	12 54	0.6	11 52
Alexandria 18 61	14 57	0.6	11 52
Athens 18 61	14 57	0.6	11 52
Bombay 23 73	20 66	0.6	11 52
Buenos Aires 18 61	14 57	0.6	11 52
Calcutta 23 73	20 66	0.6	11 52
Cairo 18 61	14 57	0.6	11 52
Colon 18 61	14 57	0.6	11 52
Hong Kong 18 61	14 57	0.6	11 52
London 10 50	12 54	0.6	11 52
Lyons 10 50	12 54	0.6	11 52
Madrid 10 50	12 54	0.6	11 52
Moscow 10 50	12 54	0.6	11 52
New York 10 50	12 54	0.6	11 52
Paris 10 50	12 54	0.6	11 52
Rome 10 50	12 54	0.6	11 52
Shanghai 10 50	12 54	0.6	11 52
Singapore 10 50	12 54	0.6	11 52
Tokyo 10 50	12 54	0.6	11 52
Washington 10 50	12 54	0.6	11 52
Zurich 10 50	12 54	0.6	11 52

THE POUND

Bank	Rate	Bank	Rate
Australia	2.52	Canada	2.10
Belgium	2.52	Denmark	2.10
France	2.52	Germany	2.10
Italy	2.52	Japan	2.10
Netherlands	2.52	Switzerland	2.10
Spain	2.52	USA	2.10
Sweden	2.52		
Switzerland	2.52		
Turkey	2.52		
USA	2.52		
Yugoslavia	2.52		

AM



LONDON

Yesterday's Temp: max 9 am to 6 pm, 50 (49F); min 6 pm to 9 am, 32 (48F). Today's Temp: max 9 am to 6 pm, 50 (49F); min 6 pm to 9 am, 32 (48F). Rain: 50% to 6 pm, 100% to 9 am, 100% to 11 am, 100% to 12 pm, 100% to 1 pm, 100% to 2 pm, 100% to 3 pm, 100% to 4 pm, 100% to 5 pm, 100% to 6 pm, 100% to 7 pm, 100% to 8 pm, 100% to 9 pm, 100% to 10 pm, 100% to 11 pm, 100% to 12 pm, 100% to 1 am, 100% to 2 am, 100% to 3 am, 100% to 4 am, 100% to 5 am, 100% to 6 am, 100% to 7 am, 100% to 8 am, 100% to 9 am, 100% to 10 am, 100% to 11 am, 100% to 12 pm, 100% to 1 pm, 100% to 2 pm, 100% to 3 pm, 100% to 4 pm, 100% to 5 pm, 100% to 6 pm, 100% to 7 pm, 100% to 8 pm, 100% to 9 pm, 100% to 10 pm, 100% to 11 pm, 100% to 12 pm, 100% to 1 am, 100% to 2 am, 100% to 3 am, 100% to 4 am, 100% to 5 am, 100% to 6 am, 100% to 7 am, 100% to 8 am, 100% to 9 am, 100% to 10 am, 100% to 11 am, 100% to 12 pm, 100% to 1 pm, 100% to 2 pm, 100% to 3 pm, 100% to 4 pm, 100% to 5 pm, 100% to 6 pm, 100% to 7 pm, 100% to 8 pm, 100% to 9 pm, 100% to 10 pm, 100% to 11 pm, 100% to 12 pm, 100% to 1 am, 100% to 2 am, 100% to 3 am, 100% to 4 am, 100% to 5 am, 100% to 6 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MARKETS THE POUND FT 30 Share 1424.2 (-1.5) FT-SE 100 1756.1 (+3.5) USM (Datastream) 146.14 (-0.94) US dollar 1.8325 (+0.0040) W German mark 3.1821 (-0.0150) Trade-weighted 77.7 (-0.1)

Executive Editor David Brewerton

Morton is 'relaxed' on protest

Mr Alastair Morton, Enrotunnel's joint chairman, said yesterday he was "relaxed" over protests from the five French companies...

In the City, where Enrotunnel shares rose 2p to 419p, it is understood that Mr Morton is applying behind-the-scenes pressure to ensure initial delays are minimized.

Polly Peck up

Pre-tax profits at Polly Peck, the international trader, increased from £86.2 million to £107.3 million in the year to September 3.

Bulmer fall

Pre-tax profits of HP Bulmer, the cider maker, fell by 19 per cent in the six months to the end of October to £6.2 million.

Payout jumps

Charter Consolidated's interim dividend rises by 0.5p to 4.75p a share following interim pre-tax profits of £32.1 million (£26.1 million).

STOCK MARKETS

Table with columns for Stock Market (New York, Dow Jones, Tokyo, Nikkei Average, etc.) and Main Price Changes (RISER, SCHOLES GROUP, etc.).

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

Table with columns for RISES (Scholes Group, G Oliver, etc.) and FALLS (Kleen-E-Ze, Johnson Matthey, etc.).

INTEREST RATES

Table with columns for London Bank Base, 3-month interbank, etc.

CURRENCIES

Table with columns for London, New York, etc.

GOLD

Table with columns for London, New York, etc.

NORTH SEA OIL

Table with columns for Brent (Jan), etc.

THE TIMES STOCK WATCH

0898 141 141 Market news on Stock-watch yesterday included: Coats Viyella (01187) with a profits downgrade...

Coats Viyella warns of 40% profits slump

By John Bell, City Editor

British Textile Confederation show imports 9 per cent higher by value in the first nine months of 1988 while exports rose only 2 per cent.

Mr Alliance said that the current combination of high interest rates, strong imports and pressure on consumer spending did not amount to a crisis for the industry.

Mr Tom Kirk, general secretary of the National Union of Hosiery and Knitwear Workers, blamed increased cheap imports and lack of government action for the extreme measures taken by Coats Viyella.

Coats Viyella's knitwear factory in Mansfield is closing and smaller units are earmarked for closure.

The lower profits would arise partly from stronger sterling and the adverse effect on translation of overseas earnings, which account for about half the group's total.

In a Commons debate last Friday MPs of all parties criticized the Government for what they saw as its failure to defend the British textile industry from a flood of cheap imports.

RTZ launches negotiations to buy BP mineral interests

By Colin Campbell

RTZ last night entered formal and exclusive talks with British Petroleum to buy the oil company's minerals assets worldwide, with the exception of the 64 per cent-owned BP Canada.

The deal is conservatively valued at £1.8 billion, though the price could reach £2 billion, and raises questions of how RTZ would fund its purchase.

RTZ and BP said a further announcement will be made in due course. The mineral interests of BP cover precious metals and

minerals from gold, silver, uranium, titanium, copper, to zinc and lead. The geographical spread takes in Norway, Mexico, South Africa, Papua New Guinea, Zimbabwe, Indonesia, the United States and Alaska. Most of the assets under discussion are in the US and include Bingham Canyon mine.

The metals assets on the table recorded an operating profit of £180 million in the first nine months of 1988, compared with a profit of £125 million for all of 1987.

The assets for sale equate to roughly 8 per cent of BP Group's total fixed assets at the end of December, then valued at £22.6 billion.

BP's planned sale would be in line with its philosophy of returning to its roots. For RTZ, fairly flush with cash from recent asset sales to complement its own substantial cash resources, the purchase of BP Minerals would be a natural extension of its mining/mineral interests.

RTZ shares, which since Friday have fallen on funding fears, were 4p higher last night at 393p. BP rose 6p to 259p.

Co-op jumps in with new bank account

By Maria Scott

The Co-operative Bank is attempting to steal some thunder from leading high street clearing banks by launching an interest-bearing current account several weeks before they do.

The bank estimates it has about 3 per cent of the personal current account market and hopes to drive that figure up to 5 per cent.

Interest rises in four bands, from 4.5 per cent net of tax on balances up to £400 to 8.5 per cent on balances of more than £2,500.

The account includes all the usual services.

Train-making to be sold by Laird

By Derek Harris, Industrial Editor

Laird, the sealings, packaging and engineering group, has a "for sale" sign on its Metro-Cammell interests in manufacturing trains, buses and taxis and is talking to more than six possible buyers for parts of the business, mainly from abroad.

Laird is to sell the division partly because it contributes barely 4 per cent of group profits compared with more than half in 1983.

The buses and cabs operation, which trades as Metro-Cammell Weymann, is a loss-maker, but train-making is

not. Laird estimates that excluding the results of the transport division, its pre-tax profits for the year to the end of this month will exceed those of 1987. Interest in train manufacture is large because both London Underground and British Rail's Network South East are about to start placing orders which could be worth at least £800 million.

Metro-Cammell makes commuter trains such as those used on BR suburban services and has been the leading manufacturer for London Underground.

Franchise owners pass vote of no confidence

Berry under pressure at Manpower

By Cliff Feltham

Mr Tony Berry, chairman of Blue Arrow, the world's largest employment agency, was pressed to resign as head of its Manpower subsidiary in the United States last night after an emergency meeting held by the franchise owners.

They protested at the "forced resignation" last week of Mr Mitchell Fromstein, the founder and former chief executive of Manpower, and declared a vote of no confidence in the new management, headed by Mr Berry.

The row will come as a further blow to confidence in Blue Arrow shares, unchanged last night at 83 1/2p - still 40 per cent adrift of the peak in August 1987 before the rights issue to pay for the Manpower takeover.

A total of 109 representatives of the 161 members of the Association of Manpower Franchise Owners aimed their resolution at Mr Berry, Mr William

Markey, chief operating officer for Manpower, and its deputy chairman, Mr John Sharkey, who joined Blue Arrow from Saatchi & Saatchi last month.

The resolution, addressed to the board of Blue Arrow, was passed after Mr Berry and Mr Markey spoke to the franchise owners at a meeting in Chicago.

It said: "The long-term best interests of Blue Arrow shareholders, Manpower employees and Manpower franchisees will not be served under the newly appointed management.

"We authorize a special committee to do everything possible to bring this message to those who can respond and remove the newly-appointed management, in whom we have no confidence."

A spokesman for the franchise owners said: "There is a major difference of opinion over how the business should be run. The owners are unhappy and their

A toast to success for Midsummer

MARC ASPLAND



Cashing in on the leisure boom: Adam Page, Midsummer's chairman, celebrates a sharp rise in profits yesterday

Midsummer Leisure, the public house, snooker club and discotheque company, has cashed in on the leisure boom by lifting pre-tax profits 176 per cent last year to £6.4 million (Cliff Feltham writes).

Turnover rose from £17.5 million to just over £40 million. Earnings per share rose 51 per cent to 10.4p, while

shareholders collect a 75 per cent hike in the total dividend to 2.9p.

Mr Adam Page, the chairman, said he was surprised the City had not warmed to his company's shares. With analysts looking for about £11 million this year, the shares, 3p better at 170p, are on a prospective price/earnings ratio of just over 10. "Growth is still accelerating and

we have issued little paper this year, so I think the shares should be higher".

The bulk of profits came from leisure retailing, which includes the chain of Riley snooker clubs, earnings rising from £2.5 million to £6.1 million. Leisure services contributed £886,000 (£177,000) and contract services £767,000 (£240,000).

Unprecedented move after boom in public finances

'Reverse auction' to buy gilts

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, has announced that the Bank of England is to hold a "reverse auction" next month, in order to buy in £500 million of gilt-edged securities.

The unprecedented reverse auction, on January 13, will formalize the process of buying in gilts, which the Bank of England has been doing quietly for several months.

The need has arisen because of the favourable situation for

public finances, with a public sector debt repayment of £9.8 billion forecast for this year. In order to meet its commitment of exactly funding public sector borrowing, the debt repayment means the Bank of England has to "unfund" by buying stock from the market.

The £500 million reverse auction, the only one in the current financial year, although more are likely in the future, will be for two short-

dated stocks - Exchequer 10 per cent 1989 and Exchequer 11 per cent 1989.

Financial institutions and individuals will be able to participate in the auction, as well as market-makers. For individuals, the minimum amount of stock that can be offered is £1,000. No dealing costs will be involved.

The auction will also help ease money market pressures during the January corporate

tax-paying season, Bank officials said.

The announcement helped produce a small rally in the gilt market.

Mr John Sheppard, economist at Warburg Securities, said the fact that reverse auctions were being introduced suggested official expectations were of public sector debt repayments for some time to come.

Factory output up strongly

Manufacturing output continued to rise strongly through the autumn, official figures show. But overall industrial production was hit by the Piper Alpha oil disaster.

The index of manufacturing output rose 0.2 per cent in October, to a level 6.1 per cent up on a year earlier. In the latest three months, output was 2.3 per cent up on the previous three months and 6.8 per cent up on a year earlier.

Industrial production as a whole fell by 0.3 per cent in October. In the latest three months it rose by 0.7 per cent, and by 3.2 per cent on a year earlier, below the officially estimated trend growth rate of 5 per cent.

Officials said the trend rate of growth in manufacturing was about 7 per cent. Output has been recording growth rates of 5.5 per cent or more since the spring of last year, and past evidence would suggest that a slowdown is likely next year.

But officials said there was no slowdown showing up yet in the figures, and the CBI's latest industrial trends survey suggested the strength of output will persist until well into the New Year.

Electrical and instrument engineering is the strongest growing sector, with production up 5.5 per cent in the latest three months.

Dollar falls despite US deficit cut

The US trade deficit narrowed to \$10.35 billion (£5.65 billion) last month, from \$10.67 billion in September (David Smith writes). But the improvement failed to impress the markets and the dollar fell back sharply.

The trade deficit narrowed in October as exports fell to \$27.67 billion (\$27.99 billion) and imports fell to \$38.02 bil-

lion (\$38.66 billion). But import weakness persuaded some market operators that the Federal Open Market Committee will delay tightening US monetary policy.

This was seen as leaving the dollar vulnerable as interest rates in Europe are rising. The central banks of Belgium and the Netherlands raised key interest rates by a quarter of a

point yesterday and West German money market rates rose in the expectation of an increase in the Lombard rate to 5.5 per cent - to be agreed at the Bundesbank Council meeting today.

The dollar closed 1.2 pfennigs down at DM1.7365. The pound rose half a cent to \$1.8325. It fell 1.5 pfennigs to DM3.1821 against the mark.

The 'Up Market' Mortgage With Your Own Cheque Book Facility To Unlock Capital

House Prices in the United Kingdom have risen by a staggering amount in recent years. That quite exceptional growth in value means that as a house-owner you are now £1,000's better off... if only you could use the capital without moving home!

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BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Bunzl offshoots in £22 million buyout

Bunzl has sold its London paper trading activities to its management for £6.5 million in cash and the assumption of debt, which takes the final price to about £22 million.

The business being sold comprises Bunzl Pulp and Paper (Sales) and 11 other companies operating in Britain, Europe and the Far East. Their combined sales last year totalled £118 million.

P&O's £1.9m Interim £5m at Halma

P&O is to buy 15 per cent of Les Constructeurs Professionnels Associés (Copro), the French builder, through Bovis International, its subsidiary, for FF21.6 million (£1.98 million) cash.

Bejam under attack

In the last formal document to Bejam Group shareholders before the Iceland Frozen Foods Holdings offer reaches its next closing date, December 21, Mr Malcolm Walker, chairman of Iceland, says: "In our view, Bejam's current volume growth (sales compared to previous year) is 5 per cent negative. The fundamental difference between Iceland and Bejam is that of growth versus decline."

Yale in \$40m acquisition

Yale and Valor is buying Miami-Carey Corp, a large US maker of bathroom cabinets and associated products, for \$40 million (£21.8 million), satisfied by the issue of 7.44 million new shares — 6.4 per cent of the enlarged equity — conditionally placed.

Baggeridge leaps 73%

Baggeridge Brick, the West Midlands brick manufacturer, reports a 73 per cent leap in pre-tax profits for the year to end-September, from £4.36 million to £7.54 million.

Charter shares dim on bid damper

Try as it might — and what is left of its executive team certainly tried hard yesterday — Charter Consolidated has yet to convince the world that it is not just a puppet on a (Minorco) string.

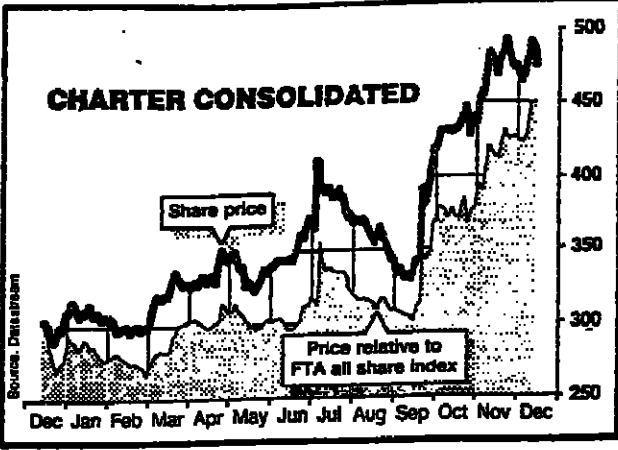
Interim profits 23 per cent higher at £32.1 million, an underlying 44 per cent improvement by its own industrial subsidiaries, and two whole farthings more on the interim dividend making 4.75p a share, should have sent Charter shares higher.

Instead, they tumbled 27p to 462p — solely because management poured as much cold water as it could on persistent thoughts that the revitalized Minorco, owner of 36 per cent of Charter's equity and determined to shake up its passive investments, is poised to bid.

The market reaction nicely illustrates the point that Charter's figures are largely academic, and that its future lies in the hands and mind of Sir Michael Edwardes and Minorco.

For the umpteenth time Charter unfolded a fresh "plan of action", outlined its determination to achieve yet higher returns on capital employed, and promised concentration on three or four main business areas.

All Charter businesses and investments are under review by a newly established strategy committee whose definitive study will only be announced in the new year.



fall and promoting its own brands at the same time. It is going to take several years to discover whether the policy has worked and whether drinkers, now bombarded by heavy advertising from the brewing giants, will again start asking for a pint of scrumpy.

In the short term, Bulmer has to put up with shrinking profits. Unhappily, the situation could get worse before it gets better. For the six months to the end of October, the company saw pre-tax profits fall 19 per cent to £6.2 million, worse than analysts had been expecting.

A closer look at the figures shows that the cider and fruit juices division suffered a 32 per cent decline in profits to £4.3 million. Wines, spirits and other drinks — which includes Perrier, marketed by

growth path with profits 60 per cent ahead and its Australian business reports strong sales of Strongbow. The second-half pattern should remain the same as Bulmer has warned of lower results for the full year.

Analysts are looking for not much more than £12.5 million against £15 million last time. The shares, 10p down yesterday at 142p, are on a prospective multiple of about 11.5 where they look expensive against Bass on 7.6. Stick to the Strongbow but leave the shares alone.

Polly Peck Poor Polly Peck parades its problem daily: in one word, credibility. Its lack is on display in a price/earnings ratio which remains stubbornly nearer to five than 10.

In all its years, Polly has seldom even wavered on the high perch of expectations which a handful of brokers placed it at. As ever more demanding profits targets were set, with the exception of one particularly difficult year, Polly met them.

The company has survived media suggestions not only that it could not be doing as well as it claimed, but also that operations it owned were nothing more than a collection of tin huts and a vivid piece of imagination.

Against that background must be measured the increase in profits for the year to September 31 from £86.2 million to £107 million before tax, a 15 per cent rise in earnings per share and the forecast dividend increase.

Polly is extending its financial year to December 31, which will cover 16 months for which profits of £142.5 million have been forecast. The seasonal bias in the business suggests that for the 12 months of 1988 (which will be the base from which 1989 projections will have to be made) will produce profits of around £110 million before tax, and 1989 could see nearly £150 million.

The company is seeking to increase the quality of earnings in order to raise the status of its shares. It has come a long way from its roots as a carton manufacturer and fruit packer in Cyprus, and with 43 per cent of sales now in Europe, can be regarded as a fully-fledged international trader.

In that light, gearing of 60 per cent is modest while interest cover of more than nine is luxurious. Little by little, the group's credibility problem, which arose from the brief period when the shares were a "wonder stock" chased by all the spivs in the City, will evaporate.

The shares at 272p on a prospective price/earnings ratio of under six for 1989 are one of the best buys on the market.

Hoskyns in 46% advance

Hoskyns Group, one of Britain's largest computer services companies, in which Plessey acquired a 68.3 per cent stake in July, reports a 46 per cent rise in pre-tax profits for the year to end-October, from £6.50 million to £9.51 million.

Turnover was up 39 per cent from £79.02 million to just over £110 million. Earnings per share rose 42 per cent from 11.3p to 16.1p, including organic revenue growth of 36 per cent, and the board is paying a final dividend of 2p, making 2.9p (2.1p).

Mr Geoff Unwin, managing director, said the company had achieved satisfactory growth and was well positioned to strengthen operations in Britain as well as expanding in Europe through organic growth, and to seek further progress in the US.

Analysts believe the company is well placed in its markets and have upgraded next year's profit forecast to £13 million. Hoskyns' share price was up 3p at 423p.

NTT chairman goes in Recruit share scandal

From Joe Joseph, Tokyo

The Recruit Cosmos share scandal, which last week topped Japan's finance minister, has claimed its latest victim in Mr Hisashi Shinto, chairman of the Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corporation, once Japan's telecommunications monopoly.

His resignation yesterday came after he went back on his earlier statements and admitted that £41,000 had been paid into his bank account, his share of the £95,000 windfall profits made when his personal secretary resold 10,000 shares in the Recruit Cosmos property company.

Mr Shinto, aged 78, is one of several senior politicians, bureaucrats and businessmen to have been offered bargain-priced stock in Recruit Cosmos, allegedly in return for political and business favours. The value of the shares soared when the company was later floated on the stock market.

Another NTT official, Mr Ei Shikiba, was demoted last

week for his involvement in the share scandal.

But the biggest casualty so far has been Mr Kichi Miyazawa, the respected finance minister, who was forced to step down last Friday after clumsily changing again and again, his explanation of how he became entangled in a scandal that has come to match the 1976



Miyazawa: biggest casualty

Lockheed bribes affair for sensational revelations. Mr Shinto's disgrace was compounded by embarrassing flashbacks on leading Japanese news programmes last night showing a press conference he gave last month. Asked then if he had received any profits from Recruit shares, he answered: "That's completely out of the question. How could I face everybody if I had done such a thing?"

The offering of Recruit Cosmos shares to officials of the now privatized NTT is widely believed to be related to the controversial resale to Recruit by NTT of two US-made supercomputers and high-speed digital circuits in December 1986.

Officials of NTT, still regarded as a quasi-governmental corporation, are prohibited by law from receiving personal donations from private firms with which NTT has pending contracts.

Corporate Estates forms £70m group

By Geoffrey Foster

Corporate Estates, the USM-listed property group, is merging with Marylebone Estates, an unquoted commercial property investment and development group.

The deal will create a company with an asset value of £70 million and cash and bank balances of £8.4 million. The merger, which is conditional on prior approval of shareholders at an extraordinary general meeting called for January 6, is to be effected by Corporate Estates acquiring the entire share capital of ME for the issue of 15.2 million new ordinary shares in CE.

Kitkat & Aitken, the broker, will handle the £1 million vendor placing. Mr Leonard Phillips, the managing director of CE, has agreed to place up to a maximum of 980,000 ordinary shares from his personal shareholding.

Based on a price of 75p for each ordinary share of CE, the deal values ME at about

£11.37 million. Corporate Estates, at the same time, has forecast a four-fold increase in pre-tax profits for the year to December 31, 1988, to £3.25 million with earnings per share up from 2.07p to 6.13p.

A final dividend of not less than 1.75p per ordinary share is forecast. Pre-tax profits of Marylebone Estates for the year to December 31, 1989, have been pencilled in at £1.75 million, after £230,000 for the seven months to October 31, 1988, and £131,000 for the year to March 31, 1988.

Mr Phillips, of CE, and Mr John Harrison, of ME, are long-standing family friends and agree the deal is "perfect" for both parties.

The merger consolidates property assets into an enlarged group, providing greater flexibility in the retention of prime properties for longer term investment growth. Shares of CE touched 70p on the announcement before closing 7p higher at 65p.

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

Table with 4 columns: First Dealings, Last Dealings, Last Declaration, For Settlement. Lists various companies and their share prices.

ALPHA STOCKS

Table with 4 columns: Vol '000, Vol '000, Vol '000, Vol '000. Lists various stocks and their prices.

COMPANY NEWS

BR. BLDG. & ENG. (Int) Turnover rose to £3.47 (£2.76m). Pre-tax: £0.42 (£0.20)m EPS: 22.3 (11.4)p Div: 2p.

DESIGN COMPETITION for the development of the First Government House Site and adjacent sites SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA. Includes details about the competition, contact information, and a public works logo.

BAGGERIDGE BRICK PLC RESULTS FOR YEAR ENDED 30th SEPTEMBER, 1988. Turnover up 47%, Pre-tax profits up 73%, Dividends up 54%, Earnings per share up 75%. 1 for 1 scrip issue proposed.

THE DAVID WATT MEMORIAL PRIZE Following his tragic and untimely death in March 1987, The David Watt Memorial Prize was introduced in 1988 to commemorate his life and work.

Vertical advertisement on the right edge of the page, partially cut off, featuring the text 'Scotch wh... EEC decis...' and other illegible text.

Scotch whisky boosted by EEC decision on 40% rule

By Michael Dynes and Derek Harris

European Economic Community agriculture ministers yesterday agreed on a liquor-labelling regulation which will protect the Scotch whisky industry and prevent manufacturers of cheaper imitations from passing off their products as the real thing.

After implementation of the new regulation, which still has to be approved by the European Parliament, no one will be able to sell anything called whisky unless it has a minimum of 40 per cent alcohol by volume.

The move was welcomed by the Scotch Whisky Association as a big boost to the industry, but the Association

of Low Strength Scotch Whisky Producers called it "a bad, mad decision."

Mr John MacGregor, the Minister of Agriculture, said: "This is very good news for the Scotch whisky industry, which is one of Britain's major export earners."

He said the breakthrough came after a midnight discussion with his Irish counterpart, Mr Michael O'Kennedy, which resulted in the unanimous agreement required for the decision to pass into Community law.

Britain has been involved in six years of complex negotiations to define EEC-wide alcohol production standards

and minimum strengths, but Ireland, which sells modest quantities of "whiskey" at less than 40 per cent alcohol by volume, proved to be the main stumbling block.

Mr MacGregor also said he had been assured that proposed changes in Japan's liquor tax - which heavily discriminates against Scotch whisky - will be introduced in April.

Lower strength Scotch whiskeys, often selling at about £2 less than typical full-strength brands, may not disappear from supermarket shelves for some time.

An attempt to protect them "for several Christmases yet"

by securing a long changeover period is to be made by the Association of Low Strength Scotch Whisky Producers.

The association is seeking meetings with ministers at the Ministry of Agriculture. Mr Malcolm Hurleston, the chairman, said the EEC decision would "have the effect of making whisky uncompetitive against other spirits and reducing the choice available to the customer."

Scotch whiskeys of under 40 per cent alcohol content have represented a growing sector in British retailing because the lower strength means a lower price, as less duty is paid.

Peers warn of 1992 threat

Britain's financial services industry will not enjoy the full benefits of the Single European market in 1992 until the exchange rate is stabilized, a House of Lords report says today. It also favours Britain joining the European Monetary System.

The peers' EEC select committee, chaired by Lord Kearton, gives a cautious welcome to a European financial area without exchange controls between member states and backs greater use of the Ecu, without wanting it to be a common currency.

Scottish buy

Wace Group has acquired David J Clark, a Scottish printer, for up to £3.6 million. The initial consideration of £2 million will be satisfied by the issue of 136,000 new shares and £1.66 million in cash.

News board

Mr Michael Ruda, group marketing director for News International newspapers and former advertising director of Times Newspapers, has been appointed to the board of News International, which owns The Times.

Bid falls short

The attempt by Oliver Resources of Dublin to win control of North West Exploration, the Northern Irish explorer, has failed. The offer was accepted in respect of 4.2 million North West shares. Together with shares already owned, this gave Oliver 45.04 per cent. The bid has lapsed.

Listing sought

Sandell Group, the West Midlands office fitting specialist, is seeking a quotation on the USM following an £878,000 placing. Craig, Middleton is placing 30 per cent of the shares at 117p each, valuing the company at £2.9 million.

Healthy boost

Shares in the USM-quoted Health Care Services, leapt 20p to 81p as the board said it had received approaches from several parties which may lead to a bid for the company.

Bowater sale

Bowater Industries is selling its Cross Paperware business to Scott Paper. The division has gross sales of about £90 million.



Advertising campaign: Clive Leach and Derek Palmer, the chairmen (right), yesterday

Redundancy plan pegs profit rise to 15.6% at Yorkshire

By Rosemary Unsworth

Yorkshire Television, the smallest of the Big Five ITV contractors, would have seen profits rise by 30 per cent last year but for a large redundancy and reorganization programme designed to shed 150 jobs by next June.

The scheme, which the company instituted in October, has so far seen 91 staff take voluntary redundancy or early retirement. The aim is that this year's costs of £3.68 million, against £350,000 last time, will not be repeated next year. The wage bill also fell £900,000 although only slightly fewer programmes were produced during the year.

Pre-tax profits were nevertheless raised 15.6 per cent from £13.5 million to £15.64 million while net advertising

revenue rose 8 per cent from £119.6 million to £129.4 million in the year to September 30 1988. A final dividend of 6.6p a share, making a total of 9.6p, a 20 per cent rise, has been recommended.

Mr Clive Leach, Yorkshire's managing director, who is mounting a marketing campaign to draw advertisers back to the Yorkshire region, said: "Advertising income was up 8.2 per cent over the previous year. But the company's share of network advertising revenue fell from 9.19 per cent to 6.93 per cent indicating a drift to southern companies."

Sales to the ITV network, shown for the first time following accounting changes between the network and the

contractors from September 2 1988, were worth £5.7 million. Channel Four sales fell to £3.18 million (£4 million) as the phasing of payments for some programmes differed.

Sales to the United States rose from £1.35 million to £1.8 million on the strength of The Attic, the story of Anne Frank, which won an Emmy award. Other sales, including the Mills and Boon stories, helped produce £2.85 million against £2.06 million.

Investment in the loss-making Super Channel cost Yorkshire a one-off £5.45 million last year.

Mr Leach said that although satellite television will be more available in 1989 broadcast television will "remain the dominant medium during the next few years."

'Cheap' Peel offer, by London Shop

By Cliff Feltham

London Shop, the property developer, has urged its shareholders not to allow Peel Holdings to buy the company "on the cheap."

London Shop, fighting a £283 million bid from Peel, claims it has a record of consistent growth. In a de-

fence circular to shareholders, Mr John Bushell, the chairman, says an up-to-date valuation is being prepared by the surveyors Healey & Baker, which is expected to throw up a big increase in net asset value.

Peel, the edge-of-town developer which already speaks for 29.9 per cent of London

Shop, last week raised its offer to 315p a share cash.

Last night Mr John Whitaker, the Peel chairman, said London Shop's circular showed how small its development programme had been in comparison with its whole portfolio.

London Shop shares were unchanged at 318p.

BCMB has the Edge

Cocking a snook at the retrenchment going on elsewhere in the City, British & Commonwealth Merchant Bank is pushing ahead with its expansion plans and has, I hear, poached a four-strong private client portfolio management team from Lazard's. The team, comprising directors Christopher Edge, aged 35, and Philip Darwall-Smith, 36 - known, they admit, as the terrible twins - and two research assistants, Josephine Orchard and Catherine Lee, have just started work at BCMB's West End office. They will be looking to recruit a number of other portfolio managers. "We are looking for bright people aged about 30, the twins tell me in unison. At the same time, BCMB will today announce that it has signed a deal with Security Pacific to buy - for an undisclosed sum - the private client stockbroking businesses of Hoare Govett in London and the Channel Islands and Campbell Neill, the Glasgow firm.

Market lament

A poem written by Parrish stockbroker Eric Baker, one of the more eccentric characters who used to work on the floor of the Exchange, was being read approvingly in the Square Mile yesterday. Part of it reads: I know I am getting older And things can't stay the same. But what has happened to the City

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

A loss to Standard

The City's fears were confirmed yesterday when one of its own workers was identified as a victim of the Clapham train disaster. Alan Wren, an executive director of Standard Chartered Bank, was responsible for its commercial banking operations in Europe, tropical Africa and southern Asia. He had been with the bank for 33 years and in April this year was appointed chairman of the Tropical Africa Advisory Group by the Minister of

Trade. "He had worked in various hot spots around the world including Iran, Aden and Zimbabwe, only to meet his death in this way," said a shocked colleague. Wren, who lived in a flat in London during the week, was returning from his country home in Dorset, where he had spent the week-end with his wife, and had boarded the train at Bournemouth. Our sincerest condolences go to his wife Heather and three sons, Malcolm, Timothy and Simon.

Is a downright bloody shame. The foreign hordes descended They came like Attila the Hun At the personal invitation



Of Sir Nicholas Goodison. Open the doors, he blithely said. There is business here a plenty, To the thousands who are out of work That promise has proved empty. It is easy two years later To say I told you so, But they didn't want to listen They didn't want to know. So many good men out of work And thousands more will follow, If this is progress, then, my friends, It is very hard to swallow. A once great institution, Destroyed by a deadly coup, Never before in the City Has so much damage been done by so few.

A study in scarlet faces

Sherlock Holmes is alive and well - according to the British Steel Share Information Office in Bristol, at least. For the stream of complaints about the curious confusion of names and addresses used by that office have culminated in a share application form which was sent, in all seriousness, to one Dr Sherlock Holmes at his immortal address, 221B Baker Street, London, NW1. But surprising though it might sound, the British Steel share office is not alone in its mistake. That address, now part of the Abbey National Building Society's London head office - it occupies numbers 215-229 Baker Street - receives more than a dozen letters a day for the legendary detective. "We employ a full-time secretary to answer them," an amused Abbey National spokesman tells me. "Some of them are from nutters, wanting him to help them solve mysteries or find lost jewellery, and just now we're getting a lot of Christmas cards. We reply to them all - usually telling people that he has retired to Sussex and keeps bees. It seems to keep them happy." Far from happy, however, is barrister Conrad Deha who received his share application form yesterday, a week after dealings began. "It's absolutely deplorable that it should have taken three weeks to reach me," he says. But, given the performance of the British Steel share price, perhaps they did him a favour.

Carol Leonard

Hillsdown 'bid' is referred

Any prospective bid for Pittard Garnar by Hillsdown Holdings, the food group with leather interests, has been temporarily blocked by a reference to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

Pittard is already the subject of a referred £41 million bid by Strong & Fisher, another quoted leather company.

The decision by Lord Young, the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, to look at a "contemplated" bid has puzzled Hillsdown.

Last week it took the unusual step of asking for a ruling on whether an offer for Pittard or an increase in its stake from the current 16.6 per cent level would be grounds for a reference. It said its inquiry did not indicate that it would make a bid.

Lord Young has also stopped Hillsdown from buying any more shares in Pittard. He used the same order to make the prohibition that was implemented after Elders DXL went on its share-buying spree in Scottish & Newcastle Breweries the day its £1.6 billion bid was referred to the MMC. The power was also used to stop Strong & Fisher buying any more Pittard shares when its bid was referred.

The MMC has been asked to make its report in three months. Lord Young considers that there are possible effects on competition in sheepskin fellingmongering, particularly in Scotland, which deserve investigation.

Strong & Fisher shares fell 1p to 220p and Pittard slipped 1p to 194p.

Armstrong acceptances

Wardle Stores, the plastic sheeting manufacturer bidding £80 million for Armstrong Equipment, has received acceptances for about 3.6 per cent of the shares and the offer will now close on December 28.

Armstrong's board has noted the low level of acceptances and has urged shareholders to take no action and continue to support the company's new management under the chairmanship of Mr Ray Watts, of Thames Water.

Avimo losses hit United

More than £3 million of losses at the troubled Avimo (Taunton) operation have left United Scientific's pre-tax profits lower at £10.1 million for the year to end-September, against £11.1 million.

Earnings per share fell from 14.4p to 9.4p, but the board is recommending a higher final dividend, raising the total for the year from 6.6p to 7.3p.

COMMENT 'Stop me and sell one' - Lawson's latest offer

When the public sector borrowing requirement turned into a public sector debt repayment, it was perhaps inevitable that a way would be found to formalize the buying-in of gilts. The Chancellor's announcement of a clumsily-titled "reverse auction" for gilts, to be held on January 13, which happens to be a Friday, is the chosen method. What will be next step - turning National Savings into National Spendings?

The reverse auction, in which the Bank will buy in £500 million in total of two short-dated gilts, will bring the buying-in process out of the closet and into the open. Nobody else seems to have tried anything like this, but then present conditions are unusual. No longer will buying-in be discussed and agreed in hushed-tone conversations between market-makers and the Bank. Now everyone with at least £1,000 of the relevant gilts will be able to offer them at the reverse auction, even Aunt Agatha.

The stocks that the Bank will buy in at the auction, which will consist of just under an eighth of the total amount of Exchequer 11 per cent 1989 and Exchequer 10 per cent 1989 in issue, are not particularly exciting. The Bank has been conducting much of its buying-in, in the present circumstances of large public sector surpluses, at the long end of the gilt market. The auction is almost in the nature of what can be thought of as more normal buying-in - when the Bank takes on stock ahead of redemption, partly to ensure an orderly market.

The announcement of the reverse auction is a reminder of just how fast the public finances have turned around over the past two years. Then, normal auctions were announced, as an experiment, but with the aim of providing the Bank with a new weapon in its armoury for the time when large public sector borrowing requirements returned. Now we have a reverse auction, and the inevitable conclusion that, in formalizing the buying-in process, the authorities think that public sector debt repayments are here to stay.

That may be premature. Although there are plenty of learned treatises pointing to the continuation of the present position, and to a sharp contraction of the gilt market over time, this has not yet been tested in the conditions of an economic slowdown. Notwithstanding yesterday's strong figures for manufacturing output, maybe we are on the brink of that slowdown now.

Royal's novel solution

The Royal Bank of Scotland, helped by its merchant bank Charterhouse and by Swiss Bank Corporation investment banking, has found a novel way of increasing its capital resources to help meet the new supervisory requirements agreed by the Group of Ten central banks in July.

The Royal is raising \$400 million from the issue of perpetual floating rate notes. Because the loan is perpetual, the Bank of England has confirmed that it counts as upper case, tier 2 capital under the international convergence of capital standards agreement.

This stipulates that banks must maintain capital resources of at least 8 per cent, of which at least half must be tier 1 capital and at least half of tier 2 "upper case" (i.e. perpetual rather than term).

The perpetual loan has been made attractive to investors by creating a put option under which, after 15 years, holders have the option annually of selling the notes to a new vehicle created separately from The Royal. The details of this vehicle and other arrangements remain confidential.

Mr Kenneth Thompson, The Royal's finance director, said: "We are delighted with this issue. It will provide qualifying capital at very attractive economic cost. This, together with a further issue of term subordinated debt planned for 1989, will satisfy fully the Group's foreseeable capital requirements, taking account of both the Citizens acquisition in the USA and our recently announced European alliance with Banco Santander."

Following The Royal's acquisitions this year the stock market had been anticipating a rights issue. But Mr Sandy Muirhead, Charterhouse Corporate Finance director, said yesterday: "This categorically and emphatically dispels any chance whatsoever of a rights issue." The Royal's shares rose 2p to 340p.

Building a portfolio

There is nothing like 13 per cent base rates to focus the minds of housebuyers, especially those of first-time buyers, and in the over-mortgaged South-east, and the heat has gone out of the housing market. At this time of year little would be moving in any case, and it will be into the New Year before the housebuilders and their City followers can get much of a handle on the market.

In a timely note on the housebuilding sector, Fred Wellings, analyst at Alexander Laing & Cruickshank, who has seen more booms than most and even a few busts in the 1970s, reckons the institutions will be missing a trick if they do not use the present "short-term correction" to buy housebuilding shares. He calculates the average price/earnings ratio is 6.6 for the year ending in two weeks' time, and 6 for the year to next June. Eight companies stand on second-year forecasts of under 5.

The company he rates as the most interesting is Countryside, which has all its eggs in the London commuter belt although it also has a sensible commercial programme. It is hard to disagree.

Sanwa Bank is now listed on the London Stock Exchange

The Konoike Exchange House, 1656

A leader among Japanese financial institutions, The Sanwa Bank, Limited has a long history that can be traced back to the Konoike Exchange House, which was founded in 1656.

Today, Sanwa is the world's fifth* largest bank in terms of total assets, with a network covering major financial centers worldwide. Always in the forefront of financial innovation, Sanwa has also ranked consistently among the most profitable Japanese banks in recent years.

In Europe, where we have been active for over thirty years, Sanwa provides a wide range of financial services to governments, corporations, and individuals. We are particularly proud to represent Japanese banks as a Financial Co-ordinator for the Eurotunnel Project, recognized everywhere as the "Project of the Century."

With the listing of our shares on the London International Stock Exchange, our commitment to the important European market is further reinforced.

*1987 Institutional Investor survey

Sanwa Bank

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Tied agents to escape rules on disclosure

By Vivien Goldsmith Family Money Editor

Independent financial advisers fear the end of a strong independent sector under proposals by the Securities and Investments Board.

They will be compelled to disclose their percentage commission on products they sell, while agents tied to one company are exempt.

Fidelity Investment Services attacked the discussion document, issued yesterday. It said it was making a strong representation direct to the SIB expressing its "extreme concern that these rules could virtually destroy the independent intermediary market."

The proposals mark out independent financial advisers who owe a duty to their clients from salesmen tied to one company who remain the agent of the life office.

The independent will have to tell clients from the outset that they will be paid a commission. Within 14 days of a proposed contract, the life or unit trust company will have to set out in writing the percentage of the premium to be paid in commission.

Companies will also have to set out the effect of charges, and it is proposed that they are also shown as a percentage of premiums. But for with-profits policies SIB proposes a booklet should be available on request showing the life office's financial strength, investment and bonus policies, expenses and factors such as whether it is a mutual society.

Enterprise rises on bid hopes

Takeover fever blazed afresh in the oil sector last night amid talk that Enterprise, the independent North Sea oil group, is soon to be the subject of a 750p-a-share bid from Atlantic Richfield, the Canadian group which is already a big North Sea player.

Enterprise responded with a leap of 27p to 515.5p on turnover of 1.6 million shares as dealers heard that a bid was on the way. The prospect of the integrated European market after 1992 apparently has made Arco look to acquire more North Sea acreage and Enterprise fits the bill perfectly, according to one dealer.

The talk coincided with another report that London & Scottish Marine Oil is close to completing the long-awaited auction of its 25.2 per cent stake in Enterprise. Dealers believed that the two were connected and that Lasmo had agreed a sale with Arco. The prospect of Lasmo reaping 750p a share for its shareholding helped the shares of Lasmo climb 15p to 462.5p in sympathy.

If Arco does emerge as the buyer of Lasmo's stake in Enterprise it will confound many brokers who had put their money on the shares crossing the Channel to end in the hands of Elf Aquitaine, the French oil group.

However, the Lasmo holding has been on the market for more than two months, and at least three bids for the entire parcel of shares had been submitted by last month. Dealers, therefore, feel that a result must be imminent although one sceptic observer

suggested that the market will not be put out of its misery until the Government's "golden share" in Enterprise expires at the end of this year.

Interest in the sector was also enlivened by late confirmation from BP that it is in negotiations with RTZ, the mining and industrial group, regarding the possible sale of its minerals business. BP closed 6p higher at 259p and RTZ 4p higher at 392.5p.

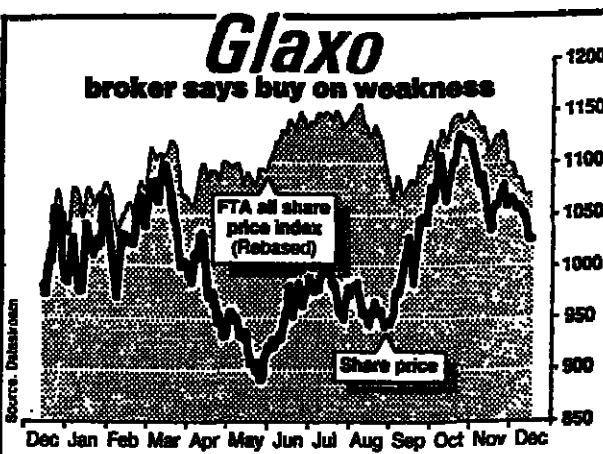
The rest of the market drew comfort from the slightly better-than-expected October US trade figures which showed a deficit of \$10.35 billion (\$3.68 billion), just below September's shortfall of £10.67 billion.

This helped dealers recover from the early shock administered by Coats Vyeella, the textile group. It gave a warning that pre-tax profits for this

year could plummet by as much as 40 per cent because of the current strength of the pound and higher interest rates. This depressed the textile sector. Shares of Coats Vyeella dropped 9.5p to 133p and also unsettled sentiment elsewhere.

The FT-SE 100 share index fell nearly 11 points at one stage, before rallying with the help of a steeper opening on Wall Street and activity in oils to finish 3.5 points up at 1,756.1. The narrower FT 30 share index closed 1.5 points off at 1,424.2.

STOCK MARKET



Glaxo broker says buy on weakness

Shares of Rolls-Royce closed unaltered at 126.5p, after 125p. Dealers had to contend with talk that the European Commission is to order the British Government to lift the 15 per cent ceiling on foreign shareholdings in the company.

Glaxo, Britain's biggest pharmaceuticals company, found an ally in the shape of Ms Susan Haylock, analyst at Barclays de Zoete Wedd, the broker. She believes that the market got hold of the wrong end of the stick on Monday after selling the shares in reaction to the company's admission at the annual meeting that sales in the first five months of the current year

increased by 16 per cent to £892 million. Thinking that this represented a slowdown in growth, following the 20 per cent increase in sales achieved in the first half of last year, dealers turned bearish, but Ms

Kwik Save, the food retailer, was unchanged at 352.5p in a depressed sector. WI Carr sees the shares as a buy and says it is a defensive stock in an environment of high interest rates and less buoyant consumer spending, with sales volume in areas less dependent on discretionary spending.

Haylock points out that once currencies and disposals are stripped out from the five-month figure, underlying sales growth in the current year has been maintained at 20 per cent.

She has downgraded her pre-tax profits forecast for 1988/9 because of the de-

pressed dollar over the past few months, but still reckons that Glaxo's core business remains strong and any weakness in the share price provides an opportunity to acquire the shares. Glaxo closed unchanged at £10.25p.

Beecham, the Marmite-to-drugs group headed by Mr Bob Bauman, moved up 5p to 466p as more than 1.5 million shares changed hands.

Sentiment was helped by news that Genentech, the rival US-based pharmaceutical group, had forecast a decline in revenue and a loss for the fourth quarter because of sluggish sales of Activase, its heart drug.

Activase is a big competitor to Beecham's own heart drug, Enimase, which is sold only in Europe and any deterioration in Activase's progress is good news for Beecham.

Following hectic traded options activity, GEC, the cash-rich electrical group, continued to attract buyers and closed 5p higher at 189p, amid widespread speculation that Lord Weinstock, the GEC chairman, is about to have the tables turned on him. More than 7 million shares changed hands.

More than 24 million British Steel shares changed hands, closing up 0.25p at 60p, the partly-paid price. Private investors only received their allotment letters on Monday and so far have been deterred from selling by the reluctance of the shares to move above the partly-paid level.

Geoffrey Foster

WALL STREET

New York (Reuters) - Wall Street shares were lower but steady following news of strong capacity use and industrial output, Mr Newton Zinder, analyst at Shearson Lehman Hutton, said.

The Dow Jones Industrial average was down 6.75 to 2,136.74 in early trading.

Declining issues held a moderate lead over advancing shares.

The US October merchandise trade gap narrowed to a seasonally adjusted \$10.35 billion (\$5.68 billion) from \$10.67 billion in September.

Table of stock market data including company names, share prices, and changes. Includes columns for Dec 13, Dec 12, Dec 11, Dec 10, Dec 9, Dec 8.

Table of Canadian prices for various companies like Agropac, Can Pac, and others.

LONDON TRADED OPTIONS

Large table of London traded options data, including columns for Call, Put, Strike, and various option types.

The Royal Bank of Scotland Group plc

Logos for The Royal Bank of Scotland, Charterhouse, RoyScot Finance Group, Capital House, and Direct Line Insurance.

PROFITS EXCEED £300m FOR THE FIRST TIME



The year to 30th September 1988 has been one of record growth for the Group, with profits before tax exceeding £300 million for the first time. Our objective is to remain an independent group, offering an increasing variety of services and possessing a unique blend of cultures and skills. We intend not merely to sustain this strong performance but to improve upon it.

difficult year and Britain has been in the forefront, with domestic demand reaching a peak of 7% this summer. This has brought a rise in inflation, a deterioration in our balance of payments, and progressive interest rate increases. We hope demand trends can be slowed down to permit a more modest but sustainable growth. Looking ahead, the advent of the single European market in 1992 and a reduction in oil earnings point to a need for further improvement in UK productivity to match our neighbours.

PARTICIPATION IN THE COMMUNITY In its first year, the Group Community Fund subscribed £180,000 to deserving causes in job creation, the national heritage and the environment, including conservation groups. We believe it is incumbent on us to participate fully in the community and will continue to identify and assist deserving projects.

THE FUTURE Our goal is prudent growth, development and success to ensure the Group's continuing independence, with automation and technology assuming increasing importance. We will follow our traditional approach of prudent and careful appraisal of any new development or opportunity, while still maintaining flexibility. The wide variety of our markets presents both challenges and opportunities. We remain confident in the Group's strengths, its adaptability to meet these challenges and its ability to succeed in the years ahead.

Table of Key Figures: Profit before taxation (£309.2m), Total assets (£21,659.9m), Dividends per 25p ordinary share (15.0p).

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING The annual general meeting of The Royal Bank of Scotland Group plc will be held on Thursday, 12th January 1989 at 12 noon at the Caledonian Hotel, Princes Street, Edinburgh.

Form for Annual Report and Accounts, including fields for Name, Address, and Postcode.

BROADENING OUR GEOGRAPHIC HORIZONS The acquisition of Citizens Financial Group in the USA and our alliance with Banco Santander Group of Spain will broaden our geographic horizons dramatically and strengthen our position as an international financial services group. The Group's interests today extend well beyond those of a traditional clearing bank to embrace merchant banking, venture and development capital, stockbroking, instalment credit, leasing, factoring, credit card operations, travel services, insurance and investment management. The Group's representation extends to the financial markets of the world but we remain firmly thirled to our roots with our head office in Edinburgh.

WE CAN BEST ACHIEVE REWARDS AS A GROUP Our subsidiary divisions operate with a substantial degree of autonomy with the Group board harnessing their talents and channelling them towards overall strategic objectives. Each division is successful, but it is collectively that optimum development can be achieved and it is as a Group that we can best achieve rewards for our shareholders.

PERFORMANCE AND GROWTH Record profits before taxation of £309.2 million were achieved, an increase of 57% on last year. Earnings per share are at an all-time high of 67.1p and 120% greater than four years ago.

We are extending our global representation and are seen as an increasingly international organisation. Citizens Financial Group will open our links with US markets, while Banco Santander Group will give us entry to Spain, Germany and Belgium, and soon Gibraltar. The two Groups are also looking further into Europe and into the Far East, where the Royal Bank is already established.

DIVIDENDS The directors recommend a final dividend on the ordinary shares of 9.7p, giving a total for the year of 15.0p per share (1987-12.7p). This represents an increase of 18% over the previous year and reflects our board's policy that our shareholders should continue to benefit from the Group's achievements.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS The world economy has grown well in what could have been a

RECENT ISSUES

Table of recent issues including Apollo Metals, BMS (18p), BMS (18p), BMS (18p), etc.

Japanese Government 6% Sterling Loan 1983/88 advertisement.

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES Resilient showing

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began December 12. Dealings end December 23. Contango day December 28. Settlement day January 9.
Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price earnings ratios are based on middle prices. (na) denotes Alpha Stocks.
(VOLUMES PAGE 25)

Portfolio PLUS Accumulator

From your Portfolio gold card check your eight share price movements on this page only. Add them up to give your overall total and check this against the daily or accumulator dividend figures. If it matches or better this figure you have won outright or a share of the daily or accumulator prize money stated. If you win, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. Always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Group	Gain or Loss
1	VPI GP	Paper, Print, Adv	
2	Ryl Rl Scot (na)	Banks, Discount	
3	GEI (na)	Electronics	
4	Erli	Building, Roads	
5	Unimor (na)	Oil, Gas	
6	Hambro	Banks, Discount	
7	Brodus PLC	Building, Roads	
8	Coedre Gty	Building, Roads	
9	BSS Group	Industrials A-D	
10	Colson	Industrials A-D	
11	Century	Oil, Gas	
12	De La Rue	Industrials A-D	
13	Micro Focus	Electronics	
14	Barclays (na)	Banks, Discount	
15	Midsummer	Leisure	
16	Whitson	Industrials S-Z	
17	Time Products	Duopoly, Monopoly	
18	Higgs & Hill	Building, Roads	
19	Castle Wireless (na)	Electronics	
20	Elliot (B)	Industrials E-K	
21	Oragon Oil	Oil, Gas	
22	Megtec	Industrials L-R	
23	Freelion	Industrials E-K	
24	West & Country	Property	
25	Beale (na)	Textiles	
26	Noble & Lund	Industrials L-R	
27	Hoskyns Gp	Electronics	
28	Goring Kerr	Industrials E-K	
29	Jones & Shipman	Industrials E-K	
30	IMF Group (na)	Industrials L-R	
31	Bechtel (na)	Industrials A-D	
32	Brocton (na)	Industrials A-D	
33	Ntha Foods (na)	Foods	
34	Allied Irish	Banks, Discount	
35	Admiral Comp	Electronics	
36	Eng China Clay (na)	Industrials E-K	
37	Haden MacLellan	Industrials E-K	
38	Adconne	Newspapers, Pub	
39	Wiggins	Building, Roads	
40	Power Corp	Property	
41	Hay (Norman)	Industrials E-K	
42	Int Bus Comm	Newspapers, Pub	
43	Victrola Telecom	Textiles	
44	MT, Hill, Harris L-R	Industrials L-R	

© Times Newspapers Ltd. Daily Total

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend

Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £8,000 in Saturday's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	Weekly Total

BRITISH FUNDS

1988	High	Low	Back	Price	Change	%
SHORTS (Under Five Years)						
1	100.00	98.00	97.00	98.50	+0.50	+0.5%
2	100.00	98.00	97.00	98.50	+0.50	+0.5%
3	100.00	98.00	97.00	98.50	+0.50	+0.5%
4	100.00	98.00	97.00	98.50	+0.50	+0.5%
5	100.00	98.00	97.00	98.50	+0.50	+0.5%
6	100.00	98.00	97.00	98.50	+0.50	+0.5%
7	100.00	98.00	97.00	98.50	+0.50	+0.5%
8	100.00	98.00	97.00	98.50	+0.50	+0.5%
9	100.00	98.00	97.00	98.50	+0.50	+0.5%
10	100.00	98.00	97.00	98.50	+0.50	+0.5%
11	100.00	98.00	97.00	98.50	+0.50	+0.5%
12	100.00	98.00	97.00	98.50	+0.50	+0.5%
13	100.00	98.00	97.00	98.50	+0.50	+0.5%
14	100.00	98.00	97.00	98.50	+0.50	+0.5%
15	100.00	98.00	97.00	98.50	+0.50	+0.5%
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100	100.00	98.00	97.00	98.50	+0.50	+0.5%

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3	100.00	98.00	97.00	98.50	+0.50	+0.5%
4	100.00	98.00	97.00	98.50	+0.50	+0.5%
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Main table containing unit trust information with columns for Bid, Offer, and Change. It lists various unit trusts such as ARMY UNIT TRUST MANAGERS, BARRACLOUGH UNIT TRUST MANAGERS, and others, along with their respective financial details.

UNLISTED SECURITIES

Table of unlisted securities with columns for High, Low, Company, Bid, Offer, and Change. It lists various companies and their share prices.

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

Table of investment trusts with columns for Bid, Offer, and Change. It lists various investment trusts and their performance metrics.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Table of foreign exchange rates for Sterling Spot and Forward Rates, and other Sterling Rates. It includes columns for Market rates for December 14 and various currency rates.

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Table of dollar spot rates for various countries including Ireland, Singapore, Australia, Canada, and Norway.

MONEY MARKETS

Table of money market rates including Euro Money Deposits, Discount Market Rates, and Treasury Bills.

COMMODITIES

Table of commodity prices for various goods such as Cocoa, Sugar, and Wheat.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

Table of London financial futures prices for FT-SE 100, Three Month Sterling, and Three Month Eurodollar.

COMMODITIES

Table of commodity prices for various goods including Crude Oil, Gas Oil, and various metals.

Vertical advertisements on the right side of the page, including 'APPO...', 'ENG only com', and 'EUROPE SALES & M. MANA'.

GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

December 15, 1988

A building society chief makes a call for expertise and knowledge to be respected as the qualities of an executive

The range of financial products and services available from your local building society has changed out of all recognition during the past few years. But the organization itself is probably much the same as it has been for decades, and therein lies a problem. By accident or design, the management structures of many societies reflect their past corporate objectives and desired management style. They tend to be hierarchical, even monolithic, with a long chain from top to bottom, and with the emphasis on financial control and audit.

Power and authority come from position in the hierarchy, rather than from knowledge and expertise, and management systems tend to serve internal rather than customer needs.

The result is an organization that relies heavily on precedent and encourages conservatism and in which managers are encouraged to look up and think about how the boss would deal with particular issues, rather than dealing with them themselves. Decision-making is slow, because decisions tend



Jeremy del Strother: message

to float upwards. Administration and control become higher-status activities than customer liaison and service.

Do these characteristics reflect societies' new business objectives in the deregulated financial service market? Not at all. What societies need now is to be innovative, flexible, agile and

Finance with a fresh face

orientated towards the customer — the power culture of the past simply will not work in the society of the future.

To a certain extent, this is already happening. My own society, Nationwide Anglia, is already well down the road, with managers taking an increasing responsibility for the profitability and development of their own sections and being encouraged to follow up their own initiatives.

The introduction of market-led product development is also making a real difference. But it is not until the message reaches the troops that changes really start to happen. It is a long process, and it starts with getting the right recruits.

Societies have traditionally relied on school- and college-leavers for the bulk of their manpower. But the number of leavers is expected to fall dramatically during the next few years, and we

have to start looking elsewhere. Part-time and mature workers — mainly women who have interrupted a career to raise a family — could form a large part of this new workforce.

But the largest untapped source is simply men. Careers advisers in schools and colleges do not seem to see men as a natural fit for front-line branch staff vacancies and there is a preconception, inside and outside the building society industry, that these jobs are not appropriate for men — something that we need to try to break down.

When you have the staff, you need to keep them. To recruit and keep the best people purely through salary is likely to prove very expensive indeed. True, the best have to be rewarded, and the rewards have to be high. But well thought-out training and personal development, giving the individual the opportunity to advance in

a rewarding direction within the same organization, are an equally important part of any employment package.

This is even more important now that building societies are developing into more complex and sophisticated organizations. Inevitably they are turning the rather narrow building society manager of the past into a highly marketable commodity, very attractive to competitors inside and outside the building society field.

Although it is traditionally difficult for training managers to offer a precise, easily quantifiable pay-back for their efforts, some organizations have already realized that training and personal development are vital factors in keeping good staff. The enlightened ones are targeting 10 days off-the-job development per

employee per year — that is certainly what happens at Nationwide Anglia. As to the rest, there is a strong feeling in human resources development circles that if training managers are short of funds, then they have not adequately demonstrated the cost-benefit equation, and they have only themselves to blame.

Many societies do already provide facilities and a structure for personal development, including financial support. A crucial factor that is often missing, however, is management commitment to the process. It is crucial because a key element for success is motivation. Individual aspirations are not enough. They have to be supported and encouraged at all levels by managers who take the development of their subordinates seriously.

The aim has to be to reduce hierarchies and make links across

the organization, perhaps by using dual reporting lines. Managers need to be educated to accept unclear relationships, frequent change and uncertainty. They need to accept, even welcome, the reduced status of the power barons as knowledge and expertise rather than tradition and length of service become the source of authority.

It is tempting to say that the ultimate winner in all this will be the customer. And to a very large extent that is true. But it is the organization that takes these lessons on board and really makes them work that will attract and keep the business. If building societies are serious about their aspirations to lead the personal finance field, then that is a lesson they will have to learn, the sooner the better.

Jeremy del Strother is deputy general manager of the Nationwide Anglia Building Society

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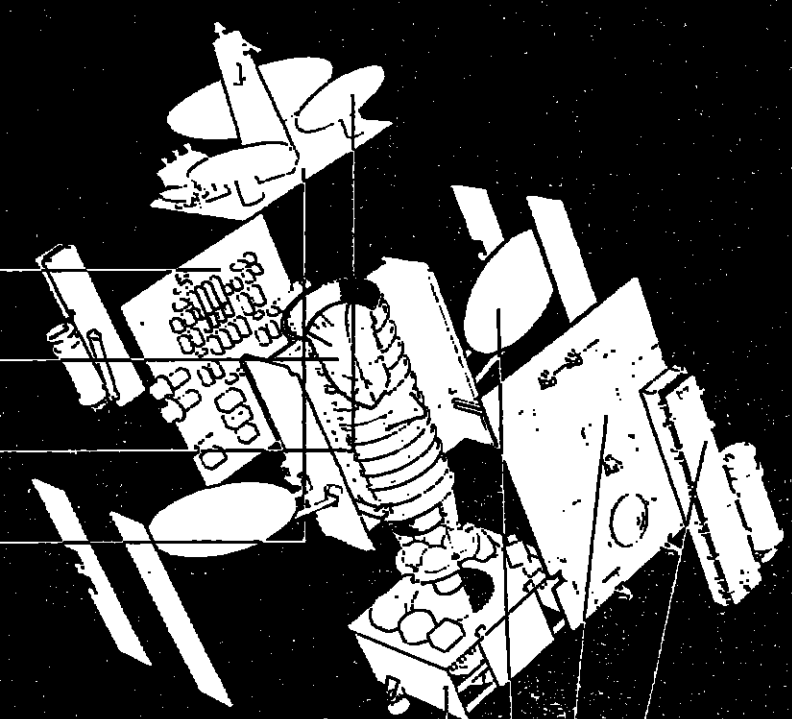
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Packaging industry
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£25,000-£35,000
+ car + benefits

EICEDE

This is a superb opportunity for an entrepreneurial Sales Manager to play a pivotal role in the development of profitable business for Eicede GmbH. The company designs, manufactures and supports a range of CAD/CAM systems for the construction and graphic design of packaging, and for die-making equipment. It has achieved outstanding growth through planned capital investment in research and development, international marketing strategy. Operating from the existing Stevenage office, you will be responsible to the MD in Germany for carrying out market research, initiating business with carton and corrugated board manufacturing and die makers, and for providing a first-class customer support service. Probably aged over 35, first and foremost you

must be able to point to a successful record of selling or marketing capital goods, to the packaging industry, over at least a 5-year period. An engineering background coupled with experience as a packaging designer or user of CAD/CAM equipment would be particularly useful. Self-motivation, mobility, analytical skills, and a capacity for sustained hard work are prerequisites for success in a difficult environment. The negotiable remuneration package includes a fully-expensed quality car, BUPA and full relocation expenses where appropriate. For further information, contact Dr Rodney Meaburn, or to apply send your cv to him quoting Ref: 2838/RSM/TT, PA Personnel Services, Hyde Park House, 60a Knightsbridge, London SW1X 7LE. Tel: 01-235 6060.

**Marketing and Sales
Manager**

For a major new development
in electronic business products
Northern Home Counties
£24,000-£28,000
+ car + benefits

One of the year's most exciting breakthroughs in business computing has been made by this long-established \$8 billion Fortune 500 multinational. This corporation is already a world-leading name in semiconductors, applied electronics and consumer products. It has always led where others have followed and has a strong and autonomous presence in Europe. The UK company is about to launch an exciting new solution-based product which has already made a tremendous impact in the USA and Europe and is poised to take a huge share of a niche market. This is a greenfield opportunity within a major company that will appeal to a truly enterprising man or woman with the commercial acumen and intellect to understand customer requirements, prepare a business plan, prospect for business and win orders. You will

get full technical support in preparing tailored solutions to match your clients' needs. Probably in your late 20s or early 30s, you must be able to demonstrate an existing track record of commercial success, working independently and selling business-to-business products in a competitive environment at board level. Your record of achievement should also show the development and implementation of a business plan through creative marketing and promotional activities. If you are ready to plot the success path for a new product, achieve your targets and advance your career within a major multinational, send your comprehensive and relevant cv to Stephen Newman, Ref: 2850/SN/TT, PA Personnel Services, Hyde Park House, 60a Knightsbridge, London SW1X 7LE.

**Marketing and Sales
Manager**

Scotland
negotiable salary

Our client, Tairb Fyne Foods Limited Scotland, is a recently established independent company involved in the processing and marketing of salmon and other quality Scottish fish products in both the domestic and export markets. Based at Motherwell Food Park in Central Scotland, the company distributes its products through a growing network of major UK retailers and an overseas agent. Reporting to the Managing Director, the Marketing and Sales Manager will be responsible for sales and product management aimed at developing the company's present customer base at the quality end of the food market. The position presents a challenging opportunity to develop your career in marketing and sales as a senior member of a small, enthusiastic and professional management team in a high-growth business. Promotion prospects to director level are excellent.

You will be educated to degree level in a relevant discipline and will have had a sound training and experience in consumer marketing and product management in an fmcg environment, a thorough knowledge of market planning, and practical experience in negotiating with major retailers. You will also be able to demonstrate sound commercial judgement and experience in a senior management role. Fluency in at least one European language would be an advantage. In return, you will receive an attractive compensation and benefits package together with an excellent opportunity for career progression with increasing authority and responsibility. To apply, please send a detailed cv to W G Edgar, or telephone his secretary for an application form, quoting Ref: WGE/2852/TT, at PA Personnel Services, Fitzpatrick House, 14/18 Cadogan Street, Glasgow G2 6QP. Tel: 041-221 3954.

Maine-Tucker

TALENTED
ADMINISTRATOR?
£15,000 + Monthly bonus!

This is a most unusual opportunity for a bright and practical Administrator, looking for real prospects (financial and otherwise), to turn their hand to all sorts of different things while managing an increasingly busy and professional office. You must definitely have Accounting experience - including Profit and Loss, PAYE, Balancing books and Credit Control - and be able to type your own correspondence. You will also be asked to take on very interesting one-off projects, for example, finding a new office in Manchester and setting up all the administrative systems. You are in a position of total trust and your judgement in all matters must therefore be balanced, astute and confidential. There will also be at least one junior assisting you. Computer Literacy a real plus - but training will be given. A very scoopy, established, successful young Company with a stunning future of its own and this could well be the chance you have been waiting for. If you are over 25, call Deborah Lee for a more detailed discussion.

50 Pall Mall St. London SW1Y 5LB Telephone: 01-925 0548

**THE BREWERS' SOCIETY
EMPLOYMENT
SECRETARY**

The Brewers' Society is the national trade association for the brewing industry. It carries a wide range of representational and advisory functions for the industry, and has a headquarters staff of around fifty. The Society has eleven specialist departments, whose work is supervised by the Director and the Secretary of the Society.

A vacancy will arise in 1989 for a successor to the Society's Employment Secretary, who is head of the Employment Department. The duties of this post include servicing and advising the Society's Employment Committee and its sub-committees and advising Member Companies and Regional Associations.

Candidates must have appropriate professional qualifications and a sound knowledge of current practice and law (UK and EEC) relating to employment, industrial relations, health and safety, training and trade union matters. Ideally they will have experience in the working of trade associations. The ability to communicate at all levels and to act as the Society's representative on various external bodies is essential.

Salary £20,000/£22,000. Benefits include 2½% contributory pension scheme, free life cover, permanent health insurance, BUPA and a company car.

Please write in confidence, enclosing a full CV, to:

Mrs R M Donovan
Personnel Officer
The Brewers' Society
42 Portman Square
London
W1H 0BB

**DIVISIONAL
ENGINEERING MANAGER**

Aberdeen Excellent salary + quality car

Hamilton Brothers Oil and Gas Limited has been established in the North Sea since the early 1970s. The company has a strong reputation for innovative thinking and cost-effective operations, particularly drilling and production. Currently operating six oil and gas fields and with two further fields having recently received government approval for development, Hamilton Brothers is expanding its North Sea operations.

The Engineering Manager will be responsible for co-ordinating all engineering activities, ensuring that maximum efficiency is achieved through the most advanced and innovative techniques. This is an extremely varied role, requiring a broad overview of the engineering work as well as detailed knowledge of specific projects.

Your responsibilities will include full engineering support to our drilling programme, utilising advanced techniques in order to achieve objectives at minimum drilling cost. You will also assist in maximising oil and gas output by the use of sound engineering solutions to complex production problems. Another important area of responsibility is quality control and certification since these activities are crucial to maintaining

production and achieving the company's objectives. Meeting timescales is absolutely essential.

Ambitious and innovative, your strong motivational and leadership skills will be essential in setting priorities and increasing performance. You'll need a range of skills to succeed: planning and analytical flair as well as problem-solving ability. It is also important that you can gain the respect of both management and staff.

A relevant degree, preferably in Petroleum, Chemical or Mechanical Engineering, should be backed up by at least 15 years' oilfield experience, mostly at senior level in the operating division of a major offshore oil and gas producer, preferably in the North Sea.

This is an outstanding opportunity to join a successful company at a vital time in its development. The salary, which reflects the importance of this position, is supported by a range of excellent benefits including a quality car, pension scheme and private medical insurance.

Please write with full cv to Matt Wright, Hamilton Brothers Oil and Gas Limited, Devonshire House, Mayfair Place, London W1X 6AQ.



Hamilton Brothers Oil and Gas Limited

chamtek**ADHESIVES SALESPERSON LONDON/SE**

ATTRACTIVE SALARY + CAR + COMMISSION

Chamtek Adhesives Division, a member of the multinational Chamberlain Phipps Plc., leading manufacturers of adhesives, sealants, coatings, etc, is seeking to recruit an ambitious, hard working salesperson to expand its business in the above area.

The successful applicant will be of smart appearance, good educational background and preferably in the age range 25 to 45 years. Although previous experience of sales and/or the adhesives surface coatings industry would be advantageous this is not an essential requirement since full training will be provided.

A competitive salary package is offered, together with choice of company car, commission scheme, private medical insurance and other benefits one would expect from employment with a large international group.

Applicants are invited in writing or by telephone and should be referred in the first instance to:

Mrs. S. Chilton, CHAMTEK LIMITED, ADHESIVES DIVISION,
Newburn Bridge Road, Blyden on Tyne, Tyne & Wear. NE21 4SQ



Telephone: (091) 414 2715

JAPANESE CONNECTIONS

GENERAL AFFAIRS MANAGER
20k PLUS BENEFITS

An International Finance Co urgently require a General Affairs Manager. Aged up to 40 you would be responsible for 3 client staff, and your job details include: Recruitment, P.A.Y.E. and Benefit control, and basic Accounting (post-cash day). This position is seen as a step up the management ladder for an ambitious responsible person with at least 18 months experience in a general office environment.

ASSISTANT MANAGER PERSONNEL
20k PLUS BENEFITS

A large finance require an assistant manager personnel to attend to accounts and admin and to establish company conditions etc.

GENERAL AFFAIRS PERSONNEL
SALARY NEG PLUS BENEFITS

A major stockbroker requires a general affairs personnel office. Experience in finance companies preferred.

MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTANT
(PART-QUALIFIED) 16k PLUS BENEFITS

A major department store newly opened in W1 urgently requires a Management Accountant. Ideally with experience in Retail Accounting and Computer (IBM 502) literate.

PHONE DAVID HILL AT J.A.C. ON 796 3132.

**INTERNATIONAL RUGBY
FOOTBALL BOARD
TOURNAMENT
DIRECTOR**

required to manage the second Rugby World Cup to be held throughout October 1991 in the United Kingdom, Ireland, and France.

Write for further details to the International Rugby Football Board, 180 Whitson Road, Twickenham, Middlesex TW2 7RE or telephone 01 891 848 before 22nd December 1988.

ESTIMATOR

Salary c.£13,000

Responsible for handling estimating and quotation presentation.

Essential qualities are a good knowledge of computers backed by estimating experience and the ability to make technical presentations to clients. A basic knowledge of the roof industry would be beneficial but not essential.

Please phone 01-961 7725 ext. 41 or send C.V. to Mr. A. Reynolds, S.S.Q. Ltd, The Spanish House, 301 Elvedon Road, London NW10 7SS.

**THE RITZ
Recruitment
Consultant**

£16,000-
£20,000 Incl.

We are looking for a new Consultant to join our tremendously successful team in the West End of London. You should be in your early to mid 20s with a sales personality and be looking for a challenge that will stretch your career horizons.

Recruitment experience is not essential but sales flair is a must! Excellent salary + commission package. Contract Margaret Bray or Colin Mueh on 01 628-4343.

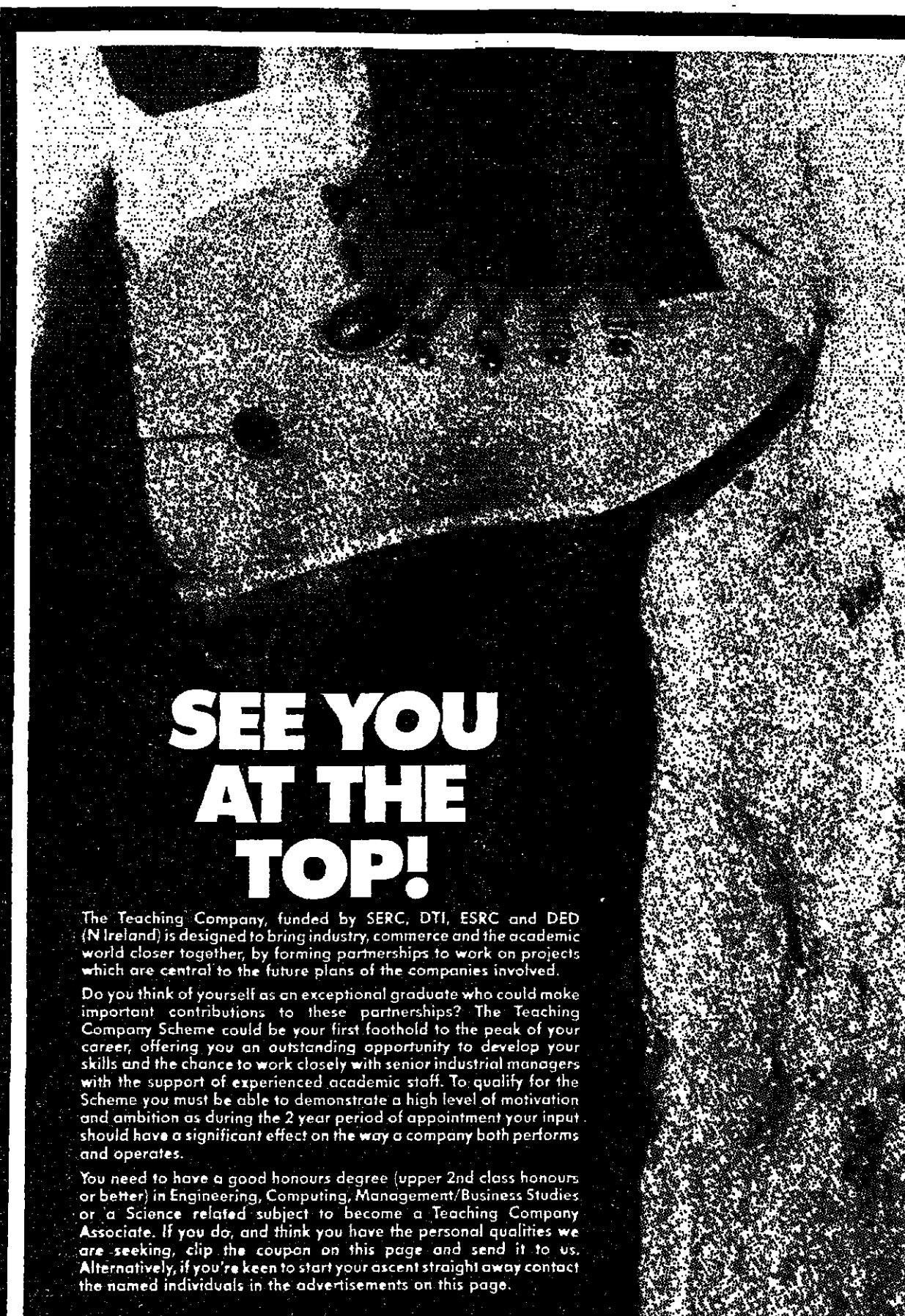
RITZ RECRUITMENT 1122 HANOVER STREET, LONDON W1R 0HF TELEPHONE: 01-628 4343

SEE AT

HELP MANU

G R A D

SOFTWARE
MECHANICAL
ELECTRICAL



SEE YOU AT THE TOP!

The Teaching Company, funded by SERC, DTI, ESRC and DED (NIreland), is designed to bring industry, commerce and the academic world closer together, by forming partnerships to work on projects which are central to the future plans of the companies involved.

Do you think of yourself as an exceptional graduate who could make important contributions to these partnerships? The Teaching Company Scheme could be your first foothold to the peak of your career, offering you an outstanding opportunity to develop your skills and the chance to work closely with senior industrial managers with the support of experienced academic staff. To qualify for the Scheme you must be able to demonstrate a high level of motivation and ambition as during the 2 year period of appointment your input should have a significant effect on the way a company both performs and operates.

You need to have a good honours degree (upper 2nd class honours or better) in Engineering, Computing, Management/Business Studies or a Science related subject to become a Teaching Company Associate. If you do, and think you have the personal qualities we are seeking, clip the coupon on this page and send it to us. Alternatively, if you're keen to start your ascent straight away contact the named individuals in the advertisements on this page.

Jacky McMillan
Teaching Company Directorate,
Sudbury House
London Road, Faringdon
Oxon, SN7 8AA
Tel: (0367) 22822

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____

POSTCODE _____
TEL: (Home) _____
(Work) _____

Reference number T12/88

Sheffield City Polytechnic
LEE STEEL STRIP LTD
PROJECT ENGINEERS

Lee Steel Strip Ltd, a Lee Group Company and the leading primary owned UK manufacturer of precision cold rolled stainless and special carbon steel strip, has joined with the Department of Metals and Materials Engineering of Sheffield City Polytechnic in an SERC/DTI Teaching Company Programme to develop the technology of fast moving metal strip.

We are looking for two bright young graduates with good honours degrees in Engineering, Metallurgy or Materials Technology, with some relevant industrial experience and preferably computer literate.

The work involves the study of modern cold rolling practices and the development of control systems to improve strip flatness which may include the use of advanced instrumentation and computer aided methods. It is a company-based position.

The appointments are for two years duration with excellent potential for career progression. A five figure salary will be paid.

Informal enquiries may be made to: Dr R A E Hooper, Arthur Lee and Sons, plc. (Tel: 0742-437272).
OR Dr R P Stratton, Department of Metals and Materials Engineering, Sheffield City Polytechnic, (Tel: 0742-720911).

Application forms from the Personnel Department, Sheffield City Polytechnic, Hallfords House, Fitzalan Square, SHEFFIELD, S1 2BB (Tel: 0742-720911 Ext.2955).

Please quote reference R20/88.

ICI
Chemicals & Polymers

ICI Chemicals & Polymers Limited and the University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne have jointly developed a Teaching Company Scheme in Statistical Process Control (SPC) of chemicals manufacture.

Applications are invited for the post of Teaching Company Associate (TCA) to be based at a production site in the north east of England.

Although formerly employed by the University, the TCA will spend 90% of his time working with the plant operating team to implement SPC as part of the local Quality Improvement Process. Appropriate training will be provided. The TCA will be eligible to apply for part-time higher degree registration.

Suitable candidates will be aged 28 or less with a good degree in engineering or mathematics and a strong interest in the practical application of statistics in an industrial environment.

The post is for a two year contract. Remuneration is negotiable and competitive with industrial graduate rates. Please send a CV plus the names of two referees (who will not be approached at this stage) to: Professor G B Whithell, Department of Statistics, University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Newcastle-upon-Tyne NE1 7RL.

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE

UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER
Ohmeda

WE HAVE IMMEDIATE VACANCIES FOR:

MECHANICAL ENGINEERING ASSOCIATE. Reference UM88/31
For product development of anaesthetic breathing systems, design and evaluation of alternative patient breathing apparatus to improve patient safety and ease during anaesthesia.

QUALIFICATIONS: Mechanical engineering degree with 2 years post graduate experience.

CINICAL EVALUATION ASSOCIATE. Reference UM88/32
For product development of anaesthetic breathing systems, clinical and laboratory testing of new patient circuit designs, to assure clinical acceptance and determine performance of patient breathing apparatus during anaesthesia.

QUALIFICATIONS: Engineering or science degree with bio-medical experience being a distinct advantage.

These positions are in conjunction with the recently approved Teaching Company Scheme through Manchester University's Department of Anaesthesia, specialising in application of Physics and Engineering to anaesthetic systems.

Manchester University has the largest medical school in the U.K. with a strong commitment to research and development of new medical therapies and equipment. The University is prepared to offer its resources in support of new product development on anaesthetic breathing systems through OHMEDA as an industrial partner.

OHMEDA, the world leader in the sophisticated field of anaesthesia equipment, is committed to research, development, and business expansion. Our purpose built factory, on an individual prestige parkland site at the edge of the Yorkshire Dales is probably the most sophisticated of its kind in the world and, the workforce needed to keep OHMEDA at the top is unmatched.

Interviews will be held during the week commencing 9th January 1989. Please write or ring for an application form quoting the appropriate reference.

OHMEDA is an equal opportunity employer.
Personnel Department, OHMEDA, Station Road, Sleeton, West Yorkshire, BD20 9RR. Telephone: 0535 - 58016

DOC HEALTH CARE

NELP MANUFACTURING MANAGEMENT
NORTH EAST LONDON POLYTECHNIC Associate c £10,500 p.a.

Stewarts & Lloyds Plastics

Stewarts & Lloyds Plastics, one of Europe's leading manufacturers of polyethylene pipe systems, has formed a Teaching Company with North East London Polytechnic.

This new Company has been formed to enable young graduates to learn by experience, working on demanding tasks with commercial, social and time constraints alongside company and academic staff.

Applicants will need a Production or Mechanical Engineering or Polymer Technology background and degree with an aptitude for development as well as the application of new technology and systems.

The successful candidates will be offered posts as Associates of the Teaching Company and will be based at the Stewarts & Lloyds factory at Huntingdon. The initial contract will be for a term of two years with the possibility of joining the Company on a permanent basis at the end of that period. Opportunity to register for a higher degree will be available to suitable candidates.

If you have a good degree or expect to get one this year and would like to participate in this exciting new venture please contact:-
Mr. R.P. Higgins, Personnel Manager,
Tel. No. (0480) 52121
Don Thomas, North East London Polytechnic, Tel. No. 01-590-7722

ARUP Earthquake Engineering

The Ove Arup Partnership and the Earthquake Engineering Research Centre of Bristol University, Department of Civil Engineering, offer a 2 year appointment in earthquake engineering. The objective of the appointment is to carry out a planned programme of validation exercises of dynamic structural analysis software using results from the new earthquake simulator at Bristol and to explore the ability of the simulator to resolve design issues. There will also be the opportunity to be involved in related project work within the Partnership.

This exciting opportunity to work with a leading firm of international consultants in the forefront of structural design and with a university department having unique dynamic research facilities in the UK, is open to graduates in their early to mid 20's with at least an upper second class degree, and preferably with some experience in the general area of structural dynamics.

The successful candidate, whilst being employed by the University, will be working principally at the offices of the Ove Arup Partnership, at an industrial salary commensurate with age and experience.

The appointment could lead to an MSc degree and at the end of the 2 years employment with the Ove Arup Partnership.

Applicants are invited to write, giving full details of their qualifications and experience, to Ian Patterson, Personnel Director,
OVE ARUP PARTNERSHIP
13 Fitzroy Street, London, W1P 6HQ

Caradon Twyford's Limited
CARADON TWYFORDS LIMITED
in association with
STAFFORDSHIRE POLYTECHNIC

THREE exciting opportunities for technology graduates to play a leading role in the application of advanced CAD/CAM systems through involvement in a Teaching Company Scheme.

Caradon Twyford's has a worldwide reputation for the design and manufacture of quality bathroom products. To enhance further its position as a market leader the company wishes to increase its design and development facilities through the use of advanced CAD/CAM technology.

The Mechanical and Computer Aided Engineering Department of Staffordshire Polytechnic offers courses for post-graduates in mechanical engineering. The department has an excellent reputation in all areas of advanced technology plus the ability to work closely with local industry.

To achieve its objectives of increasing design availability and reducing lead times, the Company wish to appoint THREE project leaders in the following areas:

1. Development of advanced computer-aided modelling methods for aesthetic design.
2. Development of techniques for detailed product design using a 3D CAD system.
3. Development of a CAD/CAM system for the manufacture of models, moulds and tooling for bathroom products.

If you see yourself as a creative individual with a determination to progress and have the ability to work in a high technology environment, then why not join the team? Excellent opportunities exist for future employment.

Candidates should possess a good honours degree in engineering and preferably have experience in managing or using a CAD system. The salaries offered will be in accordance with qualifications and experience.

For further information, apply to Personnel Services, Staffordshire Polytechnic, College Road, Stoke on Trent, ST4 2DE. Phone (0782) 744581 Ext: 8211. Alternatively, phone Dr. Malcolm Butler on 0786 63331 Ext: 6365 for an informal discussion on how you could become involved in this major project.

GRADUATES

Would you like to be part of an exciting new collaboration between a major UK group of companies and three academic institutions? Eastlight Ltd, a member of Oxflex Group Holdings plc, is a major manufacturer of stationary products and office equipment. The Company currently has two first-class career opportunities, located in the North West, for engineering or applied science graduates to work in the areas of Machine Reliability and Automated Handling.

These positions are company-based career opportunities for ambitious graduates who will be expected to play a key role in the implementation of new manufacturing technology within the Company. They are two-year appointments with excellent prospects of subsequent employment within the Group. Successful candidates will enjoy the benefits of specific technical training and a management development programme.

If you feel you have the ability and potential to accept the responsibilities required of these positions then please send your CV to Karen Townsend, Department of Aeronautical and Mechanical Engineering, University of Salford, Salford M5 4WT, or telephone 061-736-5843 Ext 7482/7465 for further details.

UNIVERSITY OF SALFORD EASTLIGHT

OPPORTUNITIES FOR MANUFACTURING MANAGEMENT AND PROJECT ENGINEERING

Following rapid expansion JCB Transmissions are seeking good honours graduates to undertake major projects in this world class manufacturing company. It is intended that promotion to management will follow successful completion of projects which include:

- Integration of existing and planned FMS
- Development of a JIT strategy for material flow
- Development of a Tool Management System
- Manufacturing diagnostics

Applicants should have an engineering or science background and a high degree of enthusiasm and personal motivation. As projects are computer based, experience or an interest in the use of computers within manufacture would be an advantage. There will be the opportunity to study for a higher degree.

Salaries and benefits are excellent.

Please write with brief career details to The Director of Staffing Services, The University of Liverpool, P O Box 147, Liverpool L69 3ZQ. For information, it is intended that telephone 051 794 4681 quoting reference number JCB/TCS.

JCB TRANSMISSIONS
The University of Liverpool

SOFTWARE ENGINEERS
MECHANICAL ENGINEERS
ELECTRICAL/ELECTRONIC ENGINEERS

A unique opportunity to embark on a rewarding career in engineering within a small company environment as an Associate under the SERC/DTI Teaching Company Scheme.

The company is engaged in providing custom designed computer controlled manufacturing systems using a modular automated approach. The Associates will be involved in the development of the control systems, mechanical manipulation and an advanced electronic power source for the next generation of equipment.

The successful candidates will work full time in the company but will be able to study for a postgraduate qualification at Cranfield Institute of Technology. The scheme provides for business training and a structured career development plan as well as the technical challenges involved in new product development.

The initial appointment is for two years and starting salaries will be around £11,000 depending on age and experience.

Candidates with a good first degree in an appropriate engineering or scientific discipline are invited to apply to Mr J Marsh, School of Industrial Science, Cranfield Institute of Technology, Cranfield, Beds. MK43 0AL.

SYNERGIC INTERACTIVE SYSTEMS
Cranfield

ENGINEERING GRADUATES

The Teaching Company. The fast intelligent path to tomorrow's technological and management positions.

UMIST and Leyland DAF have completed several successful joint projects in the North West and are now seeking new Teaching Company Associates for further projects in the areas of Manufacturing Systems/Logistics, including JIT, CAPS and Complexity Analysis.

For the Associate these positions offer you a unique chance to develop your technical and management skills, to further your post graduate education and to enhance your professional career and future prospects—significantly.

Working mainly in the company and partly at UMIST for two years you will enjoy the benefits of the resources, expertise, supervision and support of both organisations whilst taking responsibility for key projects in Advanced Manufacturing Technology.

For the successful Associate there is the opportunity to work for an MSc and to increase your career potential by an appointment in the Company.

You should be less than 28 years of age, possess a 2.1 degree in Engineering or a related subject, and preferably have a year or more of industrial experience.

To apply write with CV to: Dr Peter McNeill, Department of Mechanical Engineering, UMIST, PO Box 88, Manchester, M60 10D. Telephone: 061-236 3311, Ext. 2833.

Leyland DAF UMIST

UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK

SYSTEMS ENGINEERS
COMPUTER SCIENTISTS
CONTROL ENGINEERS

Exciting opportunities with a world wide dimension

Dynacast International, part of the Coats Vyalis Group, are world leaders in the production of high precision diecast and moulded components.

We are embarking on a major programme to apply computer integrated manufacturing to all aspects of our operations both in the UK and overseas. To this end a Teaching Company Programme is being set up in conjunction with the Manufacturing Systems Engineering Group of the University of Warwick. This is an excellent opportunity for well qualified persons, under 29 years of age, with drive and enthusiasm to work at the forefront of technology.

Applications are invited from candidates who possess a good honours degree and one of the following qualifications:

- Systems/Computer Science (possibly post-graduate) plus significant experience in systems planning.
- Control/Instrumentation plus some experience in real-time data collection.

Based near Stratford-on-Avon, the offer attractive working conditions and location. The initial appointments will be with the University of Warwick but subsequent career development opportunities within Dynacast and the Coats Vyalis Group are excellent.

Please write in the first instance for an application form to The Personnel Office, University of Warwick, Coventry, CV4 7AL. Telephone 0203 823827, quoting Ref 12/A/88/55 (please mark clearly on envelope).

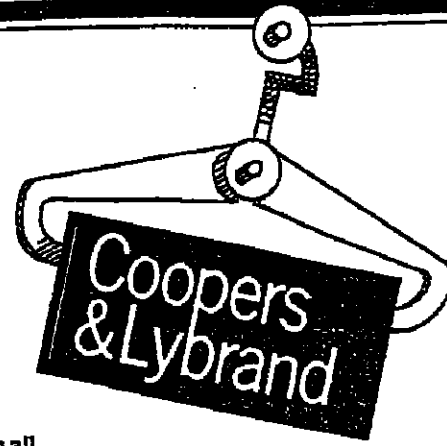
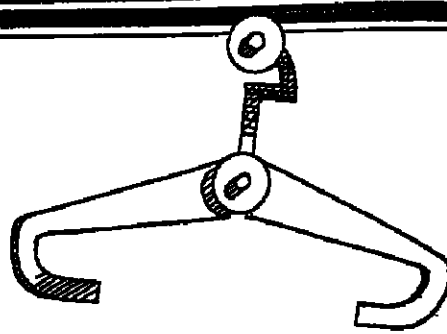
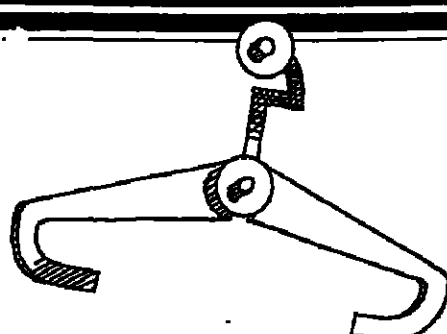
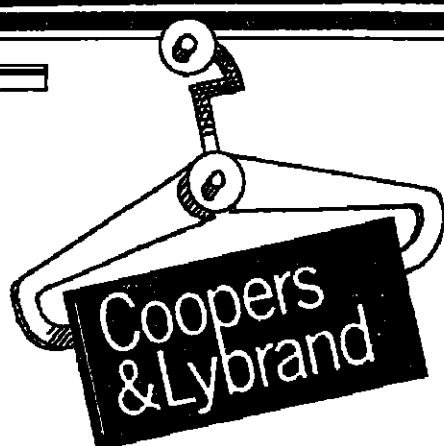
These posts are initiated in pursuance of the DTI/SERC Teaching Company Scheme.

DYNACAST
FRANCE · BRITAIN · CANADA · KOREA

01-481 4481

GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

01-481 4481



IIT CONSULTANTS to £35K+ CAR

*Just-In-Time
brings the entire
manufacturing cycle
together*

Successful manufacturing means eliminating all wasteful activities from the production process. In practice, this means making parts and goods when they are needed, so that excessive handling, queues and storage time are eradicated, and the many different elements of a manufacturing process are harmonised as one.

Just-In-Time techniques achieve this, and more, making inspection and rework unnecessary while enhancing product design and quality. It's not surprising that Just-In-Time is one of the most successful areas of our manufacturing consultancy.

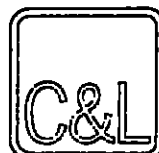
Today, Coopers & Lybrand, one of the UK's leading firms of Management Consultants and Accountants, employs many of Britain's top manufacturing experts. Tackling projects on behalf of some of the biggest British and European firms in manufacturing industry, we dominate the field of Consultancy in manufacturing.

Our advice has helped companies make reductions of up to 90% in lead times and inventories, while reducing the cost of quality and improving customer service.

To join us, you must have strong experience in Just-In-Time or related areas. Probably aged between 25 and 35, with a good degree, you will need to be able to listen to problems, analyse them and explain your solutions, combining technical expertise with strong communications skills.

In return, we promise variety, rapid career progression, and some of the best rewards in the business.

There are opportunities at locations throughout the UK, but in the first instance apply with full career details, quoting reference 30/16, to Bob Millar, Coopers & Lybrand Associates Limited, Harman House, 1 George Street, Uxbridge UB8 1QQ.



Coopers & Lybrand



The Chartered Association of Certified Accountants

OVERSEAS RELATIONS OFFICER

The accountancy profession is growing rapidly and changing fast. The accountant's role is altering throughout business and finance, with new opportunities and new challenges, both within the UK and internationally. As the professional body of over 108,000 members and students, in 120 countries of the world, the Chartered Association of Certified Accountants has a particular responsibility to ensure that it remains one of the leading international bodies within the accountancy profession.

The Association wishes to make an appointment within the Overseas Relations Department, which is responsible for co-ordinating all aspects of its overseas activities and interests. These include the maintenance of relations with overseas accountancy bodies, the monitoring of technical and professional developments overseas, and the provision of services to members and students. The Overseas Relations Officer, who will be responsible to the Overseas Relations Secretary, will deal in particular with the European aspects of the Department's operations. He or she will be involved in the monitoring of material relating to the accountancy profession in Europe, maintaining good working relations with European accountancy bodies, and preparing agendas, reports etc, for committees within the Association.

The successful candidate, who should be a non-smoker, will be a graduate, possibly in languages or European Studies, and be able to speak and write in French and German. A background in accountancy or business and experience of working in Europe would be useful but not essential. The post will involve some overseas travel.

Salary: £15,000 pa.

Further details are available from:

The Secretary's Office
The Chartered Association of Certified Accountants
29 Lincoln's Inn Fields
London WC2A 3EE
Tel: 01-242 6855.

Franchise Manager

Use your business skills to develop the success story of the 1990's

Tring, Hertfordshire

Champneys is the leading Health Resort in the country, providing a wide range of treatments, exercise facilities, leisure activities and diet control programmes from our residential centre in Tring and our club in the Meridien Hotel, Piccadilly, London.

We intend to develop a nationwide network of Champneys health and beauty salons, and associated products and now wish to recruit a Franchise Manager. You will take forward the concept and assume full responsibility for the development, growth and subsequent management and quality control of the franchise operation. From selecting potential locations and franchisees, to performance evaluation and overall supervision, the success of the venture will depend on you.

c£25,000 + Car + Benefits

You must have a retail and/or franchising background, with significant experience in the management of multiple units. A high degree of personal skills, with the ability to lead and motivate others, is essential.

In addition to an excellent salary and car, you will enjoy a wide range of benefits including contributory pension scheme, BUPA cover, and relocation assistance if required.

If you are interested in this superb career opportunity please send your career details to Mr Allan Wheway, Managing Director, Champneys Group Ltd, Chesham Road, Wigginton, Tring, Herts. HP23 6JD.



COMMERCIAL/INVESTMENT AGENCY

SURVEYOR WANTED

Self-motivated and experienced Chartered Surveyor, required for new West End office.

Tremendous scope and substantial benefits for the right person.

A good opportunity to join a small progressive team, whose individual skills and effort will be well rewarded.

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Tel: (021) 236 1132.



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EXPANDING NATIONAL MERCHANT GROUP
require a

Training Liaison Officer

at our Head Office at ISLEWORTH

You will be assisting the Training Director with responsibility for the administration of an intensive programme of 'in-house' group and external training courses. Experience in training administration is essential and you will have good shorthand and typing skills plus the ability to communicate at all levels and work under pressure.

Salary negotiable but reflects the importance of this position.

Please apply to:
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Philip Crumley
Greenham House,
671 London Road,
Isleworth, Middlesex TW7 4EX
Tel: 01-560 1234

CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS CONSULTANTS EXPERIENCED CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS SPECIALISTS

For the following office: London. Applications are invited from persons with experience in a senior position in one of the following:

- A private or public quantity surveying organisation
- A contracting company
- Consulting civil or structural engineers

Ideally candidates should have:
A good knowledge of the JCT and ICE standard forms of main contract and associated sub contracts;
A knowledge of contract law and arbitration procedures;
Good verbal and written communication skills.

The successful candidate can expect an excellent salary, bonus, private health insurance, company car and interesting career opportunities in a dynamic and growing international company. Relocation expenses will be paid if necessary.

Please apply in writing, enclosing curriculum vitae for the attention of G. Brewer to:

James R. Knowles
53 Bedford Square
London WC1B 3DP

TRADE FINANCE OFFICER

A vacancy exists within an expanding international trade finance organisation for the position of Trade Finance Officer.

We are looking for a young, entrepreneurially minded graduate with a proven ability in this field and the capacity to make responsible decisions quickly. By so doing the prospective incumbent will provide a solid back-up to the managing director whose confidence and trust will be vested in the candidate.

As the company is seeking to undertake a programme of expansion in the Canadian and Australian markets, experience in or contact with these markets would be advantageous in our assessment of the candidate. Experience in the field of trade finance and related import and export services, together with a thorough knowledge of credit assessment, including financial and security analysis, is vital.

Salary £25,000.

Please reply in strict confidence to: Box H70

INTERNATIONAL PLANNED PARENTHOOD FEDERATION DIRECTOR, EVALUATION & MANAGEMENT AUDIT

Salary Range £24,921-£34,194 p.a. plus fringe benefits (Regent's Park)

The International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) is one of the world's largest non-governmental organisations working in the field of planned parenthood and related health services. The Federation consists of voluntary associations in 125 nations throughout the world and our annual income is in excess of US\$70 million.

As a result of retirement an exciting and challenging opportunity has arisen to direct the Federation's Evaluation and Management Audit function. Main areas of responsibility include planning, developing and implementing evaluation and management audits; of Family Planning Associations, directing a multi-disciplinary team, organising and conducting evaluation training, and devising and adapting new approaches to evaluation.

Applicants should hold a recognised post graduate degree and have gained substantial experience in an international environment, together with management and training skills and in-depth knowledge of family planning issues. A good communicator is required, creative and imaginative, and able to inspire all round confidence.

Please send your c.v. to: Director, Personnel & Administration, IPPF, Regent's College, Inner Circle, Regent's Park, London NW1 4NS. Closing date for receipt of applications 5th January 1989.



IPPF is an Equal Opportunities employer

Are you at the crossroads of your career?

Very often executives and other professional people contemplate a change right in the middle of their career. Most often their reasons for this are a general dissatisfaction with their present career and the belief that they could and should be doing better.

Chusid Lander is a group of specialist career consultants who for many years have been helping people earning £15,000 a year, or more, to get better jobs - whether they are currently in a job, unemployed or facing redundancy.

We have turned pessimism into optimism, failure into success and jaded executives into highly successful people earning very much more - and we can prove it.

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To arrange an early confidential appointment without obligation, telephone your nearest office, (24 hour answerphone in London) or send us your c.v.

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The one who stands out

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SENIOR CONSULTANT
ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR
FINANCIAL EXECUTIVES

ASSISTANT FINANCIAL CONTROLLER

WG2 £21,000 + CAR + PACKAGE

As a first move from the profession to commerce, this position offers unparalleled experience to a newly qualified ACA. Based in the UK office of a multi-national oil exploration company, there will be travel to Scandinavia and Europe on special projects in addition to leading the financial and management accounting function. Excellent career progression is anticipated. Ref: CEN642.

For further information contact: Accountancy Personnel, 6-8 Glen House, Stag Place, Victoria SW1E 5AG. Tel: 01-828 7555.

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For further information contact: Accountancy Personnel, 14 Great Castle Street, Oxford Circus W1N 7AD. Tel: 01-580 9186.

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Our range of prestigious blue-chip clients in commerce, government, industry, and the IT industry demand IT solutions that impact positively on their business performance.

Our success in devising carefully evaluated strategies and implementing practical plans for the long-term use of IT to achieve competitive advantage creates several opportunities for high-calibre IT professionals in these specialist areas:

- **Strategy Formulation**...creating attractive IT strategies and evaluating them against different future business scenarios, including mergers and acquisitions and reflecting specific industry trends.
- **Information Systems Planning**...building coherent application portfolios after fully examining the corporate implications.

Ideally in your late 20s to mid-30s with a good degree (possibly an MBA) and at least six years' experience, you could be a manager or technical specialist in one of the above areas and currently working with a major IT user, supplier or consultancy.

The environment is highly stimulating and rewarding; the negotiable remuneration package will reflect experience and qualifications, and excellent career prospects are linked to personal achievement.

Please send your cv, in confidence, to Linda Gordon, Ref: 12 156, PA Consulting Group, Computers and Telecommunications, Rochester House, 33 Greycoat Street, London SW1P 2QP.

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MANAGING DIRECTOR
PLASTIC PACKAGING MATERIALS

Salary £40K +

Our client is a fast-growing, medium-sized Public Group with a number of subsidiaries manufacturing a range of packaging materials. A major subsidiary company, highly profitable, fast-growing, and operating in plastic packaging, requires a Managing Director. The Company has sales of around £10 million and 300 employees. The Group operates a highly decentralised management style and the Managing Director of the Company, reporting to the Group Chief Executive, has full responsibility for the achievement of agreed plans.

The successful candidate will be strongly motivated, experienced and keen to accept a truly high profile responsibility. Educated to degree level or equivalent, we are looking for extensive experience in the packaging industry, a good appreciation of plastics technology and proven general management skills. Direct experience of packaging development for the major supermarket groups would also be an important advantage. It is unlikely that candidates under 35 years of age will have the necessary experience to manage this rapidly developing business.

As a key Group appointment, salary is unlikely to be a limiting factor. Other conditions of employment including Executive Company car, Bonus Scheme, relocation package, etc., are fully competitive.

Applicants should write, together with a comprehensive C.V., to the address below, specifying any Company to whom the application should not be forwarded.

Dixon Wilson (Ref: AFS)
P.O. Box 900
Rotherwick House
3 Thomas More Street
London E1 9YX

Price Waterhouse

International Marketing Manager

C London

c£40,000 + Car

Price Waterhouse is one of the first truly transnational professional service organisations operating throughout the world. Recognising that an international market place demands global strategies, we have created a world management board to lead the development of our worldwide organisation. As part of the new structure, an international marketing support group has been formed in central London to enable us to take full advantage of the opportunities that a growing market and the increasing globalisation of business offers.

Reporting to the World Firm Marketing Partner, you will be involved in advising on all aspects of marketing with particular emphasis on international marketing strategy, research and support as well as corporate image and communications.

It is likely that you will be a graduate (ideally with an MBA) aged 30-40 with a proven

record in a high profile, service orientated environment. International experience of working at a senior level with multinational corporations is considered to be essential. Naturally your exceptional interpersonal qualities will play a significant part in building effective relationships both internally and externally. Considerable creative and analytical skills are prerequisites.

Career prospects are excellent and will be based entirely on your success in helping to create and support successful marketing initiatives. Salary is negotiable and includes a range of benefits that would normally be associated with an international firm.

Interested candidates should ring David Bodmer, who is acting for us, on (0753) 840858 or write to him at Michael Page Marketing, Windsor Bridge House, 1 Brocas Street, Eton, Berkshire SL4 6BW. Please quote reference MPM285.



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TEACHING COMPANY

SENIOR CONSULTANT

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A part-time Senior Consultant is required to assist in the development and monitoring of this innovative and rapidly expanding scheme for post-employment education of industrial staff.

IGDS is administered nationally by the Teaching Company on behalf of the Science and Engineering Research Council. The post will therefore involve close liaison with HE institutions throughout the UK.

Applicants should be familiar with the industrial environment and the education and training needs of industrial students, have experience in academic course construction and assessment and be able to demonstrate an innovative approach to Higher Education.

The successful applicant will be expected to operate out of the Teaching Company offices located in Farnborough, Hampshire. The Teaching Company (part of the Royal Military College of Science, Shrivenham, itself a Faculty of the Cranfield Institute of Technology) is sponsored by SERC and DTI and others.

Further details may be obtained from the Personnel Office (HQ) RMCS Shrivenham Wiltshire SN6 6LA (0793) 785403/785421. Informal enquiries may be raised with the General Manager, TCS Tel (0357) 22822.

MANAGING DIRECTOR OF MANAGEMENT TRAINING COMPANY

The National Association of Head Teachers (NAHT) is forming a wholly owned subsidiary company to meet the need for management training for heads and deputies.

The Company, which will be called N.A.H.T. Management Development Services Limited - wishes to appoint a suitably qualified and enthusiastic Managing Director as soon as possible.

The objective is to make the Company profitable within a limited period. The Managing Director will be appointed full time on an initial 2 year fixed term contract (renewable by the Company). The total remuneration package is expected to be in the range of £25,000-£30,000 per annum, part of which will be performance related. Additionally the Company will be prepared to make a contribution to an appropriate pension scheme. The Managing Director will be expected to work from home or a small convenient office location. Relevant expenses will be met by the Company and consideration will be given to the employment of a small support team.

The NAHT is confident that this will prove to be an exciting and influential venture which will have a major impact in this vital field. We are looking for a candidate who appreciates the needs of heads and deputies and senior managers in the Education Service and has the skills to develop and market appropriate and successful training provision.

Further particulars from David Burbidge, Deputy General Secretary, National Association of Headteachers, 1 Heath Square, Bolero Road, Haywards Heath, West Sussex, RH16 1BL. Telephone 0444 458133.

Closing date for applications 17 January 1989.

NAHT The National Association of Head Teachers

ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR

The Independent Schools Information Service (ISIS) seeks an Administrative Director to join the national headquarters staff in March 1989, when the present post holder leaves to produce a child for an ISIS school.

The successful candidate, who should have had business experience, will be responsible for accounts, personnel and administration.

The starting salary is £20,000 p.a. and there is a non-contributory pension scheme and five weeks holiday per annum.

For full Job specifications write to Jane McMullen, ISIS, 56 Buckingham Gate, London SW1E 6AG. Tel: 01-630-8793/4.

Closing date for applications 9th January 1989.

FINANCIAL EXECUTIVES

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14407 or 14408 or 14409 or 14410 or 14411 or 14412 or 14413 or 14414 or 14415 or 14416 or 14417 or 14418 or 14419 or 14420 or 14421 or 14422 or 14423 or 14424 or 14425 or 14426 or 14427 or 14428 or 14429 or 14430 or 14431 or 14432 or 14433 or 14434 or 14435 or 14436 or 14437 or 14438 or 14439 or 14440 or 14441 or 14442 or 14443 or 14444 or 14445 or 14446 or 14447 or 14448 or 14449 or 14450 or 14451 or 14452 or 14453 or 14454 or 14455 or 14456 or 14457 or 14458 or 14459 or 14460 or 14461 or 14462 or 14463 or 14464 or 14465 or 14466 or 14467 or 14468 or 14469 or 14470 or 14471 or 14472 or 14473 or 14474 or 14475 or 14476 or 14477 or 14478 or 14479 or 14480 or 14481 or 14482 or 14483 or 14484 or 14485 or 14486 or 14487 or 14488 or 14489 or 14490 or 14491 or 14492 or 14493 or 14494 or 14495 or 14496 or 14497 or 14498 or 14499 or 14500 or 14501 or 14502 or 14503 or 14504 or 14505 or 14506 or 14507 or 14508 or 14509 or 14510 or 14511 or 14512 or 14513 or 14514 or 14515 or 14516 or 14517 or 14518 or 14519 or 14520 or 14521 or 14522 or 14523 or 14524 or 14525 or 14526 or 14527 or 14528 or 14529 or 14530 or 14531 or 14532 or 14533 or 14534 or 14535 or 14536 or 14537 or 14538 or 14539 or 14540 or 14541 or 14542 or 14543 or 14544 or 14545 or 14546 or 14547 or 14548 or 14549 or 14550 or 14551 or 14552 or 14553 or 14554 or 14555 or 14556 or 14557 or 14558 or 14559 or 14560 or 14561 or 14562 or 14563 or 14564 or 14565 or 14566 or 14567 or 14568 or 14569 or 14570 or 14571 or 14572 or 14573 or 14574 or 14575 or 14576 or 14577 or 14578 or 14579 or 14580 or 14581 or 14582 or 14583 or 14584 or 14585 or 14586 or 14587 or 14588 or 14589 or 14590 or 14591 or 14592 or 14593 or 14594 or 14595 or 14596 or 14597 or 14598 or 14599 or 14600 or 14601 or 14602 or 14603 or 14604 or 14605 or 14606 or 14607 or 14608 or 14609 or 14610 or 14611 or 14612 or 14613 or 14614 or 14615 or 14616 or 14617 or 14618 or 14619 or 14620 or 14621 or 14622 or 14623 or 14624 or 14625 or 14626 or 14627 or 14628 or 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14740 or 14741 or 14742 or 14743 or 14744 or 14745 or 14746 or 14747 or 14748 or 14749 or 14750 or 14751 or 14752 or 14753 or 14754 or 14755 or 14756 or 14757 or 14758 or 14759 or 14760 or 14761 or 14762 or 14763 or 14764 or 14765 or 14766 or 14767 or 14768 or 14769 or 14770 or 14771 or 14772 or 14773 or 14774 or 14775 or 14776 or 14777 or 14778 or 14779 or 14780 or 14781 or 14782 or 14783 or 14784 or 14785 or 14786 or 14787 or 14788 or 14789 or 14790 or 14791 or 14792 or 14793 or 14794 or 14795 or 14796 or 14797 or 14798 or 14799 or 14800 or 14801 or 14802 or 14803 or 14804 or 14805 or 14806 or 14807 or 14808 or 14809 or 14810 or 14811 or 14812 or 14813 or 14814 or 14815 or 14816 or 14817 or 14818 or 14819 or 14820 or 14821 or 14822 or 14823 or 14824 or 14825 or 14826 or 14827 or 14828 or 14829 or 14830 or 14831 or 14832 or 14833 or 14834 or 14835 or 14836 or 14837 or 14838 or 14839 or 14840 or 14841 or 14842 or 14843 or 14844 or 14845 or 14846 or 14847 or 14848 or 14849 or 14850 or 14851 or 14852 or 14853 or 14854 or 14855 or 14856 or 14857 or 14858 or 14859 or 14860 or 14861 or 14862 or 14863 or 14864 or 14865 or 14866 or 14867 or 14868 or 14869 or 14870 or 14871 or 14872 or 14873 or 14874 or 14875 or 14876 or 14877 or 14878 or 14879 or 14880 or 14881 or 14882 or 14883 or 14884 or 14885 or 14886 or 14887 or 14888 or 14889 or 14890 or 14891 or 14892 or 14893 or 14894 or 14895 or 14896 or 14897 or 14898 or 14899 or 14900 or 14901 or 14902 or 14903 or 14904 or 14905 or 14906 or 14907 or 14908 or 14909 or 14910 or 14911 or 14912 or 14913 or 14914 or 14915 or 14916 or 14917 or 14918 or 14919 or 14920 or 14921 or 14922 or 14923 or 14924 or 14925 or 14926 or 14927 or 14928 or 14929 or 14930 or 14931 or 14932 or 14933 or 14934 or 14935 or 14936 or 14937 or 14938 or 14939 or 14940 or 14941 or 14942 or 14943 or 14944 or 14945 or 14946 or 14947 or 14948 or 14949 or 14950 or 14951 or 14952 or 14953 or 14954 or 14955 or 14956 or 14957 or 14958 or 14959 or 14960 or 14961 or 14962 or 14963 or 14964 or 14965 or 14966 or 14967 or 14968 or 14969 or 14970 or 14971 or 14972 or 14973 or 14974 or 14975 or 14976 or 14977 or 14978 or 14979 or 14980 or 14981 or 14982 or 14983 or 14984 or 14985 or 14986 or 14987 or 14988 or 14989 or 14990 or 14991 or 14992 or 14993 or 14994 or 14995 or 14996 or 14997 or 14998 or 14999 or 15000 or 15001 or 15002 or 15003 or 15004 or 15005 or 15006 or 15007 or 15008 or 15009 or 15010 or 15011 or 15012 or 15013 or 15014 or 15015 or 15016 or 15017 or 15018 or 15019 or 15020 or 15021 or 15022 or 15023 or 15024 or 15025 or 15026 or 15027 or 15028 or 15029 or 15030 or 15031 or 15032 or 15033 or 15034 or 15035 or 15036 or 15037 or 15038 or 15039 or 15040 or 15041 or 15042 or 15043 or 15044 or 15045 or 15046 or 15047 or 15048 or 15049 or 15050 or 15051 or 15052 or 15053 or 15054 or 15055 or 15056 or 15057 or 15058 or 15059 or 15060 or 15061 or 15062 or 15063 or 15064 or 15065 or 15066 or 15067 or 15068 or 15069 or 15070 or 15071 or 15072 or 15073 or 15074 or 15075 or 15076 or 15077 or 15078 or 15079 or 15080 or 15081 or 15082 or 15083 or 15084 or 15085 or 15086 or 15087 or 15088 or 15089 or 15090 or 15091 or 15092 or 15093 or 15094 or 15095 or 15096 or 15097 or 15098 or 15099 or 15100 or 15101 or 15102 or 15103 or 15104 or 15105 or 15106 or 15107 or 15108 or 15109 or 15110 or 15111 or 15112 or 15113 or 15114 or 15115 or 15116 or 15117 or 15118 or 15119 or 15120 or 15121 or 15122 or 15123 or 15124 or 15125 or 15126 or 15127 or 15128 or 15129 or 15130 or 15131 or 15132 or 15133 or 15134 or 15135 or 15136 or 15137 or 15138 or 15139 or 15140 or 15141 or 15142 or 15143 or 15144 or 15145 or 15146 or 15147 or 15148 or 15149 or 15150 or 15151 or 15152 or 15153 or 15154 or 15155 or 15156 or 15157 or 15158 or 15159 or 15160 or 15161 or 15162 or 15163 or 15164 or 15165 or 15166 or 15167 or 15168 or 15169 or 15170 or 15171 or 15172 or 15173 or 15174 or 15175 or 15176 or 15177 or 15178 or 15179 or 15180 or 15181 or 15182 or 15183 or 15184 or 15185 or 15186 or 15187 or 15188 or 15189 or 15190 or 15191 or 15192 or 15193 or 15194 or 15195 or 15196 or 15197 or 15198 or 15199 or 15200 or 15201 or 15202 or 15203 or 15204 or 15205 or 15206 or 15207 or 15208 or 15209 or 15210 or 15211 or 15212 or 15213 or 15214 or 15215 or 15216 or 15217 or 15218 or 15219 or 15220 or 15221 or 15222 or 15223 or 15224 or 15225 or 15226 or 15227 or 15228 or 15229 or 15230 or 15231 or 15232 or 15233 or 15234 or 15235 or 15236 or 15237 or 15238 or 15239 or 15240 or 15241 or 15242 or 15243 or 15244 or 15245 or 15246 or 15247 or 15248 or 15249 or 15250 or 15251 or 15252 or 15253 or 15254 or 15255 or 15256 or 15257 or 15258 or 15259 or 15260 or 15261 or 15262 or 15263 or 15264 or 15265 or 15266 or 15267 or 15268 or 15269 or 15270 or 15271 or 15272 or 15273 or 15274 or 15275 or 15276 or 15277 or 15278 or 15279 or 15280 or 15281 or 15282 or 15283 or 15284 or 15285 or 15286 or 15287 or 15288 or 15289 or 15290 or 15291 or 15292 or 15293 or 15294 or 15295 or 15296 or 15297 or 15298 or 15299 or 15300 or 15301 or 15302 or 15303 or 15304 or 15305 or 15306 or 15307 or 15308 or 15309 or 15310 or 15311 or 15312 or 15313 or 15314 or 15315 or 15316 or 15317 or 15318 or 15319 or 15320 or 15321 or 15322 or 15323 or 15324 or 15325 or 15326 or 15327 or 15328 or 15329 or 15330 or 15331 or 15332 or 15333 or 15334 or 15335 or 15336 or 15337 or 15338 or 15339 or 15340 or 15341 or 15342 or 15343 or 15344 or 15345 or 15346 or 15347 or 15348 or 15349 or 15350 or 15351 or 15352 or 15353 or 15354 or 15355 or 15356 or 15357 or 15358 or 15359 or 15360 or 15361 or 15362 or 15363 or 15364 or 15365 or 15366 or 15367 or 15368 or 15369 or 15370 or 15371 or 15372 or 15373 or 15374 or 15375 or 15376 or 15377 or 15378 or 15379 or 15380 or 15381 or 15382 or 15383 or 15384 or 15385 or 15386 or 15387 or 15388 or 15389 or 15390 or 15391 or 15392 or 1

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Four years in my old job was more than enough. Enough to know I wanted something different. A job with loads of responsibility for a start.

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So I joined the police service on the Graduate Entry Scheme, which gave me the opportunity for

accelerated promotion. Competition for places is stiff, so you've got to be something special. But after only five years I've reached

TOMORROW'S POLICE SERVICE. YOU COULD BE THE MAKING OF IT.

the rank of Inspector. The future? That's up to me and my ability. If you're 30 or under and a graduate or final year undergraduate, you could get more out of your degree by joining the police service on the Graduate Entry Scheme.

The closing date is 16 January 1989. For further details and application form, send the coupon below to Supt Richard Buller BA(Cantab), Room 553, Home Office, Queen Anne's Gate, London SW1H 9AT.

Don't sit on your degree, use it.

POLICE GRADUATE ENTRY

I am a graduate final year undergraduate Please tick.

Name _____ Age _____

Address _____



British Steel plc

Co-ordinator, Graduate Resourcing & Development

£20-25K + car

British Steel is a major recruiter of graduates. Management succession is predominantly from graduate stock, and the graduate recruitment activity is recognised as a key contributor to future business success.

Based in London, this position has primary responsibilities for the co-ordination of the graduate resourcing programme, including publicity and university liaison, and for policy development. There is a related responsibility for devising new initiatives for the effective development of the graduate intake.

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An economics graduate with post graduate experience is preferred. Initiative, potential and a good writing style are essential. There are some travel opportunities.

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HORIZONS

Queue here for your IT trainees for 1992

The explosion in information technology is producing its inevitable result - expanding companies looking in all directions for people with the essential operating skills.

It is an opinion backed up fully by all the available statistics. According to the National Computing Council: "The current perceived shortage of staff with IT skills in the UK 'user' community is of the order of 19,000."

Shortages are already causing problems, and these will be further exacerbated by increased demands caused by the single European market, and by the on-coming demographic trough, whereby the number of school-leavers between now and the mid-1990s will have fallen by 25 per cent.

Certain types of IT professionals are more in demand than others. A recent survey shows that now the greatest demand is for development staff, including systems analysts and programmers.

Whereas the demand for software staff has continued to grow significantly, that for experienced electronics engineers showed little growth. The Institute of Manpower Studies sees future growth in the need for software skills, and to a lesser extent, for networking staff.

Shortages are causing employers to look outside the traditional

Clare Hogg points out that the growth in information technology will create a buyer's market for graduates

sources for staff and a shift in job emphasis towards "user support" is resulting in more arts graduates, especially those with business or communications skills, being taken on than ever before.

The class of degree is now often more important to a potential employer than the discipline. Some companies are still looking for "early adopters" - highly technical people who are fascinated by any new development - but this is becoming less common.

market can apply for postgraduate "conversion" courses in computer sciences, run by universities and polytechnics; usually taken up to MSc level, and lasting a year.

The demand, and the nature of the work, has led to some interesting advantages from the point of view of the graduate. Firstly, it enables the IT professional to be highly mobile. Quite a number of employees leaving IT jobs do so because their spouses are being

relocated, or simply out of a desire to travel while still earning a reasonable wage. The well-trained professional with the right specialisation can get a job relatively easily almost anywhere in the world. Even work permit restrictions present less of a problem.

Pay is generous, and pressure is continually keeping it buoyant, especially among "users". Many larger companies (mostly in the IT services category) trying to attract ambitious graduates, and already paying competitive salaries, are vying also with each other to provide the best training

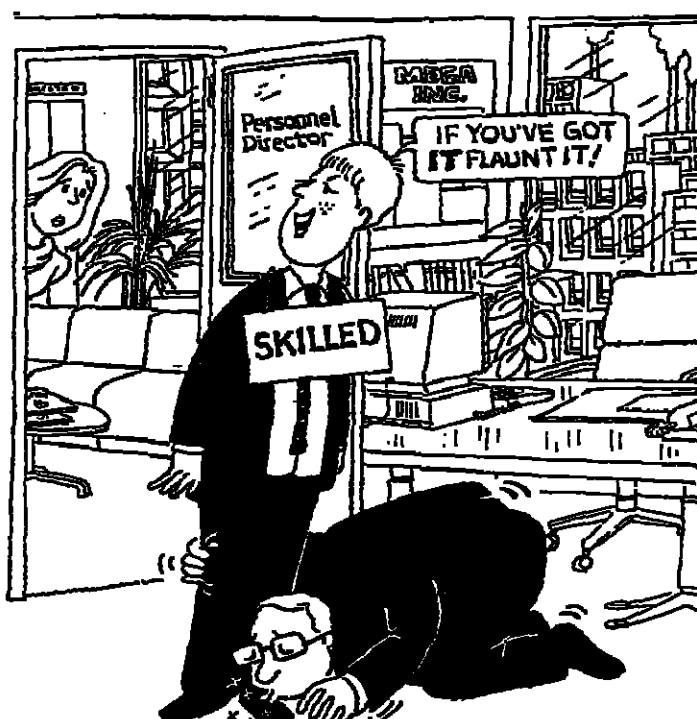
programmes. After increasing salaries, investment in training is the single most common response to the shortages. In addition, many employers are introducing more effective structures for developing career paths.

Frequently, small and medium-sized companies do not provide training for fear of poaching. The irony is that if training is not provided, employees are more likely to leave, particularly those who are seriously concerned with their careers, rather than purely motivated by money.

Many companies, do, however, offer training. A survey carried out by the Computing Services Industry Training Council earlier this year reported 13 companies which spent more than 5 per cent of their total salary bill on training.

The important point is that the quality varies enormously. Since the industry is constantly changing, a flexible approach rather than rigid structure is essential. The opportunities for specialisation are enormous, and training which allows familiarity with a wide variety of skills is also an advantage.

In March this year Cosit launched the Industry Standard Development Programme, piloted initially by BIS, the SEMA Group



KanYne

Choices not for the timid

What skills are employers in IT seeking? Steve Crowther is responsible for graduate recruitment at Logica. "We are looking for technical abilities and personal qualities. Personal qualities are very important since we are a particularly client-oriented company and do a lot of consultancy work. People who have been on 'conversion' courses are clearly motivated and often bring some business experience with them."

"We need good communicators, both verbal and written; people who are self-motivated, since we don't have a lot of managers overseeing work; and, since there are no hierarchical layers of management in this company, we need people who are not status-oriented, who can work happily in a team."

The IT industry is a young industry, and employers are often very open-minded about who they recruit. Nevertheless, technical changes are happening all the time and adding new and demanding challenges.

Information: Anyone thinking of a career in Information Technology should get HIT 89, (Hobsons, £6.50 which outlines the careers open within IT, lists the courses available and IT employers and qualifications required. Cosit produces Facts about the computing industry: exploring the possibilities of a career (Hobsons).

available to them if they want it. The aim is that the ISDP certificate should become recognized throughout the industry as "the necessary badge of a properly-trained and experienced practitioner". Above all, although it ties them for up to six years (four is more typical), employees like the ISDP. Most graduates who accept jobs at SEMA have another nine job offers as options.

Jobs in small companies are often difficult to find, since they are rarely advertised. Sometimes small employers will approach universities and colleges with offers of project work for the summer.

According to Barney Gibbens, chairman of SEMA, the IT Industry Leading Body and Cosit, it represents the current best practices of recruitment, training and development of staff in the computing services sector.

The programme has gone well, it provides a discipline for working, and a good balance of structured experience and classroom theory. Some "user" employers have applied to join the programme, and, although so far turned down, the methodology is

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SQUASH RACKETS

Why Hall is a case of that will do nicely in the North

By Colin McQuillan

While UTC Cannons and Mayflower Lambs were ensuring that their London derby next week would take them into the second half of the season as runaway leaders of the American Express Premier League, a lower level local affair in Manchester on Tuesday showed why national league squash was likely to survive and flourish after five years of umbrella sponsorship by the credit card company ends in May.

Manchester Northern and Village are sponsored by Jim Hall, Manchester's most prominent sports retailer. On Tuesday he had 10 players on court with his name on their shirts before a packed house at the Northern Lawn Tennis and Squash Club. In every round, naturally, Hall was the winner.

It was almost incidental to Hall that Northern defeated Village 4-1, that Geoff Williams approached his incisive and exciting best, beating Almet and taking 9-4, 9-5 in 38 minutes and that Ashley Naylor's mind was more on his new computer programming business than on his 7-9, 6-9, 3-9 drubbing from Colin Keith.

Already strongly connected to local football through his supply of the Manchester United club shop and involvement with the Bobby Charlton Sports School, Hall has made his business central to Manchester squash.

RACKETS

Cheltenham make reappearance

By William Stephens

This year's Public Schools Singles championships, which begin today at Queen's Club, are notable for the participation of boys from two additional schools - Cheltenham and Westminster. Cheltenham's last entry was in the doubles of 1933 and Westminster's in 1926; their courts were then closed. One of Cheltenham's courts was reopened this year, and Westminster boys are now playing at Queen's Club.

The motivation to take up rackets again has come in both cases from the present headmasters, Richard Morgan at Cheltenham and David Summersdale at Westminster. Both were pupils at Sherborne, which is not a Rackets-playing school. However, they entered the Noel Bruce Cup three times together, and in 1965 they beat Charterhouse 3-0 in the first round and then took two games from Eton II, represented by Garth Milne, who was twice Public Schools Singles champion, and Tim Pugh.

Cheltenham's leading players are Jonathan Rooney, the captain of rackets, Tom Carless and John Boddington, Boddington, the son of the former England squash rackets captain, R. M. H. Boddington, is a particularly exciting player who relishes double-handed aggression.

CYCLING

Elusive champions

Britain's two amateur road champions, Neil Hoban and Lisa Brambani, may not be available for a big event like the Milk Race, but they are listed today among 84 riders selected for the senior and junior national squads (Peter Bryan writes).

Brambani is hoping to join a club based in Colwyn Bay, but she is awaiting confirmation from America and Hoban is negotiating for a place with a top French amateur club.

The pair, who competed in the Seoul Olympics, would be prepared to return to defend their titles in the summer and, in Hoban's case, endeavour to be selected for a big event like the Milk Race.

Paul McHugh, three times national sprint champion, is listed among the squad but there is a question mark about his future; he has said that he wants to turn professional and race abroad.

The main objectives given to squad riders are the junior and senior world championships in the Soviet Union and France and the Commonwealth Games in New Zealand next month.

The pair, who competed in the Seoul Olympics, would be prepared to return to defend their titles in the summer and, in Hoban's case, endeavour to be selected for a big event like the Milk Race.

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Australian Totes show the way



RACING AND THE BOOKMAKERS

In its argument for a greater return from the bookmakers, British racing cites the generally happy relationship between a thriving sport and betting in Australia. In this second part of The Times' analysis, Christopher R. Hill explains the workings of the Totalisator Agency Boards

A much-paraded quote in the debate on the funding of British racing comes from Bart Cummings, a leading Australian trainer. "We started off our racing 300 years behind you," he told British racing journalists. "Now we're about 300 years in front."

Cummings was singing the praises of the Australian Totalisator Agency Boards (TABs), the state-by-state Totes which control all off-course betting and contribute greatly to a racing industry that is healthier than ever.

Compared with Australia, the financing of racing in Britain is pathetic. In the year to March 31, 1988, British bookmakers' turnover was £3,126 billion. From this, about £28 million (and a further £770,000 from the Tote) was returned by the bookmakers through the Horserace Betting Levy Board for the benefit of racing (That refers only to the 80 per cent of turnover customarily assumed to be derived from horse racing, and therefore liable to the levy; most of the remainder comes from greyhound betting, which does not pay any levy).

The Australian scene is very different. Racing flourishes throughout the country, with the exception of Western Australia. It is a reasonable estimate that in 1987 the Australian state Totes returned £68 million to racing - more than twice British racing's yield from betting and from a lower turnover, probably in the region of £2.8 billion.

Lord Newall, chairman of the British Greyhound Racing Board, is convinced that the Australian way of funding racing and other sports is correct. In a discussion paper issued last month, he pressed for a Betting Board "to finance (from a proportion of the proceeds of the Levy) the establishment in Britain of a highly-computerized cash and credit operation on the lines of the proven Australian TAB system."

He said: "This operation would link by computer with the on-course markets all off-course totalisator betting money (less general betting duty and proposed levy) through to the racecourse totalisators. "It would be a full-scale cash and credit alternative to High Street bookmaker betting, working in direct competition."

"The bookmakers would bet on singles, doubles, trebles, accumulators, etcetera, based on starting odds of all betting was returned as winnings, compared with 78.5 per cent in Britain. In France, 6 per cent went on expenses; in Britain, 7.8 per cent went on operating costs. In France, 25.5 per cent (18 per cent) was left for the state and £186 million (6 per cent) was returned to racing; in Britain, the figures were 2.5 per cent and 1.1 per cent respectively.

Price-money in France averaged £10,000 per race and nearly £375 million and off-course betting was £2,751 billion, a total of £3,126 billion - close to the British total. But the distribution of the money was very different. In France, 71 per cent of all betting was returned as winnings, compared with 78.5 per cent in Britain. In France, 6 per cent went on expenses; in Britain, 7.8 per cent went on operating costs. In France, 25.5 per cent (18 per cent) was left for the state and £186 million (6 per cent) was returned to racing; in Britain, the figures were 2.5 per cent and 1.1 per cent respectively.

Separate authorities control flat racing, steeplechasing and trotting. In 1987, on-course betting was £375 million and off-course betting was £2,751 billion, a total of £3,126 billion - close to the British total. But the distribution of the money was very different. In France, 71 per cent of all betting was returned as winnings, compared with 78.5 per cent in Britain. In France, 6 per cent went on expenses; in Britain, 7.8 per cent went on operating costs. In France, 25.5 per cent (18 per cent) was left for the state and £186 million (6 per cent) was returned to racing; in Britain, the figures were 2.5 per cent and 1.1 per cent respectively.

Section 75 enacts that the Act applies to acts done by a Minister of the Crown or government department. Section 41 provides: "(1) Nothing in Part II to IV shall render unlawful any act of discrimination done - (a) in pursuance of any enactment or Order in Council; or (b) in pursuance of any instrument made under any enactment by a Minister of the Crown."

Mr Stephen Sedley, QC and Mr Robin Allen for the applicant, Mr Hugh Carlisle, QC and Mr Timothy Hewitt for the respondent. LORD JUSTICE BALCOMBE, dissenting, said that he would first consider the department's claim for immunity under section 41. It said that in refusing to approve the course completed by the applicant as comparable to a course within Schedule 5 to the 1980 Regulations, the secretary of state was acting in pursuance of an instrument made under the Education Act 1980 by a Minister of the Crown and was so within the immunity conferred by section 41(1)(b).

That argument was inconceivable if the words "in pursuance of any instrument" were apt to include not only acts done in necessary performance of an express obligation conferred by the instrument (the "narrow construction") but also acts done in exercise of a power or discretion conferred by the instrument (the "wide construction").

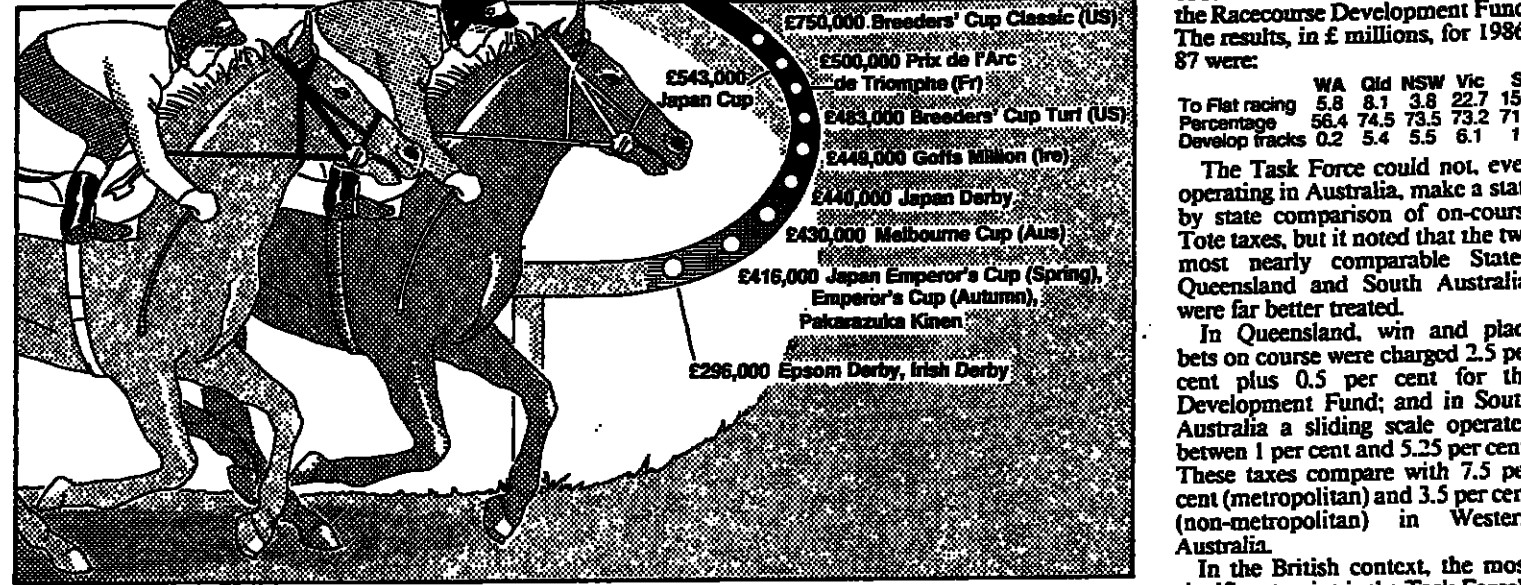
Both constructions were possible. The wide one was the more natural. Was there anything in the context of the Act which led to an indication that the narrow construction was the correct one? The wide construction was in direct conflict with sections 13 to 18 inclusive of the Act. Yet section 41 was not made expressly subject to any of those sections. That led to the inevitable conclusion that the wide construction should be rejected.

The question remained whether the narrow construction was correct or whether some other intermediate one should be found. Parliament in enacting section 41 could not have intended that the secretary of state should be entitled to ignore the racial implications of what he was doing. There were sound policy reasons for the narrow construction. It should follow that the department was not entitled to section 41 immunity here. The question then arose as to whether the department could show that the proposed require-



Rich return: Empire Rose, the 1988 Melbourne Cup winner, parades in front of the stands. Betting makes a substantial contribution to prize-money

THE WORLD'S RICHEST RACES



The Epsom Derby is Britain's richest race, but with £296,000 for the winner it lags far behind the Breeders' Cup Classic in the United States (£750,000), the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe in France (£500,000), and the Melbourne Cup (£430,000). British racing argues that a greater return from betting turnover would enable it to increase prize-money and to attract better horses

price returns and fixed odds-type forecast betting, plus ante-post. They would not use mathematical formulae for forecast betting which do not show predetermined odds

"A network of off-course totalisator betting outlets would need to be established, possibly by utilizing town centre post offices and existing Tote bookmakers' shops, which would be divested of the bookmaking side of their operation."

Luca Cumani, the trainer, has voiced similar thoughts: the Jockey Club should buy the Tote - the subject of a privatization feasibility study - and run it for the direct profit of racing in opposition to the Big Four bookmakers, Ladbrokes, Coral, William Hill and Mecca.

The ideas for a better way of funding British racing are being promoted as the sport seeks to persuade the Home Secretary to decide that the bookmakers should pay to the Horserace Betting Levy Board more than the present 0.88 per cent of turnover. Everything, says the racing lobby, could be improved with more funding: prize-money, stable lads' housing, racecourse facilities.

What makes the Australian experience so attractive? How do racing and betting inter-relate? Racing is organized state by state, each with its own Minister, legislation and taxation system. Some Australia-wide statistics do exist, and they are presented to the annual international conference of racing authorities, held in Paris at the time of the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe. They must be treated with some caution, but for 1987 the Tote turnover was listed as:

Table with 2 columns: Country, Tote Turnover. Includes Australia, Victoria, NSW, and NSW.

The state governments received £155 million (8 per cent) and £68 million (3.5 per cent) was returned to racing. Other figures indicate that in three states alone - New South Wales, Western Australia and Victoria - £50 million was returned to horse racing in a year.

Bookmakers' on-course turnover (bookmaking is illegal off-course) was £843 million in 1987. No figure was given for the tax paid, which varies from state to state: in Western Australia, for example, bookmakers pay 2 per cent on the first \$400,000 (about £46,000) of turnover, and 2 1/2 per cent thereafter.

In the year to July 31, 1988, according to the Western Australia TAB, bookmakers turned over £71,627 million on racing and £12,558 million and £2,325 million on trotting and greyhounds.

In Victoria, bookmakers' turnover was £351,162 million, or 22.7 per cent of the total legal gambling turnover. In the same year, the bookmaker submits his tax return to the race club at which he operates, and the tax is divided equally between the state government and the club.

On-course totes are another source of revenue to the clubs. They pay varying rates of tax on different types of bet. In Western Australia, for example, they pay 7.5 per cent on win and place bets at metropolitan courses, and 3.5 per cent at provincial and country courses.

By far the most important sources of tax for state governments, and of revenue to racing, are the state TABs, set up in the 1960s to meet the market for off-course betting, which until then had been conducted illegally by starting price bookmakers.

governments (relating to the TABs' entire operation covering all forms of gambling) and to the racing industry (excluding trotting and greyhounds) were:

Table with 2 columns: Country, Government Revenue. Includes W Australia, Victoria, NSW.

The Victoria Government sum includes £38 million designated for hospitals and charities. In Victoria and New South Wales, £6,139 million and £6,372 million respectively were paid to the Racecourse Development Fund, which makes grants to all clubs, including trotting and greyhounds. Thus, three state TABs distributed just over £50 million to Flat racing in one year.

Racing's treatment by state governments brings few complaints, except in Western Australia. There a "Task Force", headed by C. W. Quin, a public relations consultant and former journalist, inquired into the industry and reported earlier this year.

It recorded that a series of "unfortunate and unsavoury incidents" had been given widespread publicity and could sap the public's confidence in the sport's integrity. The incidents included several cases of doping and an attack on a senior steward.

The Task Force was, however, mainly concerned with examining racing's financial and administrative systems in Western Australia. It believed Western Australia to be over-taxed and underfunded - echoes of Britain.

Some of its non-metropolitan courses looked down at heel; some owners and trainers were moving to eastern states, where prize-money was better; all but the most fortunate trainers, jockeys and breeders were making unacceptably low incomes; some trainers were having to charge below the recommended rates to retain clients.

In contrast, racing in Queensland, South Australia, Victoria and New South Wales had an air of progress and confidence.

The Task Force made some revealing comparisons between states relating to the "galloping code" - as Flat racing is known, to distinguish it from trotting and

greyhound racing. These concerned the percentage of total TAB distribution allocated to the galloping code and the funds available from the Racecourse Development Fund. The results, in £ millions, for 1986-87 were:

Table with 4 columns: State, To Flat racing, Percentage, Develop tracks. Includes WA, Old NSW, Vic, SA.

The Task Force could not, even operating in Australia, make a state by state comparison of on-course Tote taxes, but it noted that the two most nearly comparable States, Queensland and South Australia, were far better treated.

In Queensland, win and place bets on course were charged 2.5 per cent plus 0.5 per cent on the Development Fund; and in South Australia a sliding scale operated between 1 per cent and 5.25 per cent. These taxes compare with 7.5 per cent (metropolitan) and 3.5 per cent (non-metropolitan) in Western Australia.

In the British context, the most significant point is the Task Force's complaint that the amount created off the TAB's operations in Western Australia by the Government was slightly greater than the amount refunded to racing.

In Britain, as *The Times* showed yesterday, the Government, through tax, duty and VAT, takes 9.5 per cent of every £1 bet. The Quin report has already been successful in stimulating legislation to bring the TAB tax in Western Australia back to 6 per cent.

Prize-money is another bone of contention. The Paris international conference figures indicate that total Australian prize money on the Flat was approaching £56 million, with an average per race of £2,232. This compares with an average of £7,000 prize-money per race in the 1988 Flat season in Britain; this high average disguises the fact that 10 per cent of the races had advertised values of £1,000 or less - and 40 per cent of National Hunt races, for that matter.

The prize money offered in Australia is a matter for the individual clubs, whose prosperity varies greatly. In Western Australia, in 1986-87, virtually all the income generated by clubs was spent on operating and maintaining the racecourses - leaving all but a fraction of the £4.8 million prize-money and subsidies to be met from the TAB's subvention.

In Victoria, the Victoria Race Club alone paid £5.1 million in prize-money in 1987-88; in New South Wales, total prize-money was £21 million. The figures may be incomplete and open to some question, but not so much as to prevent a rough comparison with Britain.

On almost every measure (except in Western Australia), racing in Australia is more prosperous than its British counterpart. The explanation is not hard to find. In the 1960s, the Australians decided not to legalize off-course betting but to give a monopoly to the TABs. A few years earlier, the British industry had had the chance to push for exactly the same thing but failed to take the opportunity.

TOMORROW

The questions for the Home Secretary to consider

TODAY'S FIXTURES

7.30 unless stated FOOTBALL CENTRAL LEAGUE (FL): First division: Derby v Sheff Wed; Everton v Nott Forest; Second division: Darlington v Wigan

FOOTBALL LEAGUE (FL): Premier division: Arsenal v Barnet; Charlton v QPR

CAPIT LEAGUE: Premier division: Torquay v Barnet

OTHER SPORT EQUINE TRAINING: Olympic show

SPORT ON TV EQUINE TRAINING: BBC2 4.30-5.05 p.m. Preview: BBC1 11 p.m.-12.10 a.m. Show: Japanese v British

WORLD WRESTLING: CA 8-30 p.m. Grand Autumn tournament from Tokyo

Law Report December 15 1988

No race discrimination in refusing Hong Kong teacher qualified status

Hampson v Department of Education and Science Before Lord Justice Parker, Lord Justice Nourse and Lord Justice Balcombe [Judgment December 2] A refusal by the Secretary of State for Education to grant qualified teacher status to a Hong Kong trained teacher was not an unlawful act of discrimination against her under the provisions of the Race Relations Act 1976. Even if there was discrimination within section 1(1) it was rendered lawful by section 41(1)(b).

The Court of Appeal so held (Lord Justice Balcombe dissenting) in dismissing an appeal by the applicant, Theresa Lee Ping Li Hampson, from the decision of the Employment Appeal Tribunal (1988) ICR 278 that had upheld an industrial tribunal's refusal of her claim that in being denied qualified teacher status she had been unlawfully discriminated against.

The applicant, a Chinese national, took a two-year teacher training course in Hong Kong and after eight years of teaching took a further two-year course. She came to England and applied for qualified status as to enable her to teach in English state schools. Her application was refused on the ground that the Hong Kong course was not comparable to an approved course required by regulation 13 of, and Schedule 5 to the Education (Teachers) Regulations (SI 1982 No 106) as it was not for a three-year period or of sufficiently high standard.

She complained to an industrial tribunal that she had been unlawfully discriminated against on the ground of her race contrary to sections 1(1)(b) and 12(1) of the 1976 Act by being refused qualified teacher status. Section 1(1) provides: "A person discriminates against another... if... (b) he applies to that other a requirement or condition which he applies or would apply equally to persons not of the same racial group as that other... (ii) which he cannot show to be justifiable irrespective of the colour, race, nationality or ethnic or national origins of the person to whom it is applied; and (iii) which is to the detriment of that other, because he cannot comply with it."

Vertical advertisement for 'Mercy Las' and 'Haydock' on the right edge of the page.

SWIMMING: BRITISH OLYMPIAN HOPES A MORE RELAXED APPROACH WILL BRING SUCCESS IN THE FIRST WORLD CUP

Brownsdon sees the trivial side to a pursuit of victory

From Steven Downes, Toronto

At 22 years of age, Suki Brownsdon has reached the stage where she needs more out of swimming. "Why are you still in the sport?" Keith Bewley, Brownsdon's coach, asked when she telephoned on Saturday night to seek his opinion on whether she should accept the last-minute offer of a place on the England team for the first Fina World Cup meeting, starting here today. "You're in it to enjoy yourself and travel. Go," Bewley advised.



All smiles: Suki Brownsdon, experiencing a revival after the disappointment of Seoul

SPORTS LETTERS

Membership scheme unwelcome in Scotland

From Mr David Christie Sir, It appears that Mr Moylan, the Minister for Sport, would like ultimately to extend the proposed football membership scheme to Scottish league clubs. Such a decision would be unnecessary and unwise for the following reasons.

Ski plan did look ahead

From Mr A. Blackshaw Sir, I wonder if your reporter, Mr Iain Macleod, in describing the British Ski Federation as a "previously backward-thinking organization" is not being a bit too generous?

Time to call a cricketing truce

From Mr Bruce Robert Miles Sir, Is it not time for cricket to declare peace? Non-cricket historians record the Thirty Years War. Cricket beats that holocaust in its 50 years since the Bodyline Barrage began here in Sydney and the battle still rages.

Lacrosse's answer

From Mr J.H. Eksendjian Sir, I have read the correspondence on the professional foul (November 24 and December 1) with some interest. If the footballing authorities were really intent upon removing the professional foul from games then I would have thought the solution would be relatively simple if they were to operate a law which was applied in men's lacrosse.

Place of leagues

From Mr R. W. Jones Sir, Permit me to comment on Mr G. R. Thomas's letter about leagues in Welsh rugby (December 1). Accepting some, though by no means all, of his misgivings about the league, I seek to address misleading impressions he creates. These, I submit, arise either from over-zealous argument, or from specific local observations which find scant application beyond his immediate vicinity.

Refereeing lesson

From Mr R. W. F. Sampson Sir, I was very pleased to see that your Rugby Correspondent, David Hands, twice praised the referee Mr Clive Norling (December 7 and 8) for his handling of the Oxford and Cambridge University match.

Overseas fillip

From Ms Sarah Knight Sir, Are we so afraid of excellence? If England has insufficient "home-grown" top-class cricketers, surely there is no reason to object to a fillip from abroad?

Disabled provision

From the Secretary of the Rugby Football Union Sir, Our publicity machinery is evidently less effective than we had thought. Mrs Eileen Peary has taken the Rugby Football Union to task (December 8) for failing to provide adequate facilities at Twickenham for the disabled in wheelchair.

Digging problem

From Mr B. K. Foster Sir, I was interested to see that (15) asks if a dog is "a burrowing animal". The following extract from the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews' (quoted in the Rules (Appendix) makes clear that it is not.

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CRICKET

England on target for final despite New Zealand loss

From Carol Salmon, Melbourne

England lost their second Shell Bicentennial women's World Cup match when they went down by five wickets to New Zealand here yesterday. Victory over the Netherlands tomorrow is essential if England are to take their place in the final on Sunday against Australia.

Qadir's repertoire used to full to halt Academy

Adelaide (Reuter) - Abdul Qadir, using his full range of attacking skills, took four for 73 yesterday to help Pakistan to a 67-run win over the Australian Cricket Academy, an institution offering scholarships to promising players. The 100-over game was the first proving ground for the Academy.

India in West Indies

West Indians with English counties and league clubs will miss nearly three weeks of the new season next spring because India's tour of the Caribbean does not end until early May (Richard Streeton writes). India will play their Test matches, their only first-class games and five one-day internationals during their visit.

HOCKEY

St Albans victory questions system

By Sydney Friskin

St Albans qualified for the last-32 stage of the Royal Bank national indoor club championship after winning all three matches at Kelsey Kerridge Hall, Cambridge, on Tuesday night in a round-robin series with Cambridge City, Chelmsford, and Norfolk Wanderers.

THE OLYMPIA CHRISTMAS SHOW. Harvey Smith gives inside news and behind-the-scenes views on this popular London event in the equestrian calendar - the attractions, the competitors, the participants, plus a preview of the Young Rider Show Jumping competition. Plus Peggy Grayson's popular ponies column, racing, hunting, bloodstock, indoor show jumping, dressage, veterinary advice and up-to-date equestrian news.

SPORTING SLAVERY. From Dr Brenning James Sir, Stephen Hendry's comments (December 6) about being bored in the World Matchplay snooker tournament are, if anything, compounded by Denis Taylor's remarks about the financial reward. People working in boring jobs feel the greatest sympathy for those trapped into lengthy participation in even more boring sports.

LITTLEWOODS POOLS, LIVERPOOL. £286635. TREBLE CHANCE 24 PTS £39335. 22 PTS £175. 23 1/2 PTS £335. 22 PTS £185. 21 1/2 PTS £085. 5 Dividends only. See Rule 9(f).

Swedish. Work performance may hinge on Czech performance. TUESDAY'S RESULTS. Football: Fulme raise the pace in second half.

Pakistan increase England's sense of world isolation

By Richard Streeton

England's growing isolation in world cricket worsened yesterday when Pakistan announced that they did not wish to play them in the one-day tournament recently planned to take place in New Zealand during March.

Referring to the South African links of Gooch and other England players, a Pakistan cricket board statement issued in Karachi said that "playing against such a team is contrary to the Pakistan stand in various international forums".

The Pakistan statement stunned Test and County Cricket Board officials at Lord's. They pointed out that only a fortnight ago the Pakistanis had agreed to vary their New Zealand itinerary when the local board agreed to accommodate England there on a substitute tour, following the abandonment of England's visit to India.

Alan Smith, the chief executive of the TCCB, said last night they would be approaching New Zealand officials as soon as possible.

"It is not possible to stick to the original programme, or revise it so that our visit can still include two Tests and a reasonable number of one-day matches, it simply may not be viable."

A senior Pakistan cricket official claimed later in Karachi that he had never had any contact with TCCB officials and had only agreed tentatively with New Zealand to participate in matches with England, with final confirmation to follow later.

As far as Pakistan were concerned, the suggested tournament had been deliberately kept secret for as long as possible while "we took soundings and tested reactions", he said.

"Once the New Zealand Foreign Minister launched his widely reported, scathing attacks on the England visit, there was no way that Pakistan would behave contrary to our known principals about apartheid and people with South African links."

It is understood that the final decision, that Pakistan should have no truck with the visiting England team, was taken on Monday by the Pakistan board president, Lt-Gen Ziauddin Ali Akbar Khan, who, as chairman of the Pakistan Water and Power Development Authority, also holds a senior Government appointment.

The new Pakistan Government, led by Benazir Bhutto, whose People's Pakistan Party are strongly anti-South Africa, were not directly involved but almost certainly applied pressure behind the scenes.

There has also been growing criticism in Pakistani newspapers and by politicians about Pakistan meeting England on their substitute tour.

The Pakistan board's official decision was conveyed to the New Zealand Cricket Council by telex. It is believed the New Zealand authorities replied asking Pakistan to change their mind and that this reply was not answered.

Pakistan did stress to New Zealand, however, that they wished their own tour to New Zealand, which includes three Test matches and three one-day internationals, to take place as originally scheduled.

The same official, who disclosed that the Pakistan board president personally called off the tour, said he had been in touch with Intikhab Alam, the Pakistan team manager in Australia, where they are currently playing, and had been told that the Pakistan players had met and were against having fixtures with England.

"The Pakistan players were concerned at the various threats being made by apartheid protesters to disrupt the matches. Nobody needs reminding how the South African rugby players were treated there by demonstrators in 1981, with flour bombs dropped from aeroplanes and so on. It just would not have been worthwhile quite apart from the principals involved," he said.

For the England cricket authorities, this latest setback in their efforts to find some cricket for their beleaguered players is a grim reminder of the uncomfortable time facing them at the International Cricket Conference in London in January when the South African issue will be debated.

Attitudes both in Australia and New Zealand have hardened in recent weeks, and with the non-white cricket nations already unanimous about there can be no compromise about South African links, Pakistan's latest action was entirely predictable. To many observers it was only surprising that it took so long to become known.

Already in the past few days it has become clear that England's matches in New Zealand, inevitably, will only generate unpleasantness and further ill-will.

Dick Cuthbert, the national treasurer of the New Zealand Halt All Racist Tours organization, has been quoted as saying in Auckland that measures to disrupt England's visit would include demonstrations at cricket grounds, airports and hotels.

During matches extra cricket balls would be thrown onto the field to disrupt play and that mirrors would be flashed in the sun to dazzle batsmen.

In Delhi a group of Indian MPs have passed a resolution calling on members of the New Zealand parliament to apply pressure to get England's visit cancelled.

More cricket, page 40

Shapcott turns professional after cup triumph



Susan Shapcott, the driving force in the Curtis Cup victory over the United States, will turn professional in the New Year. Shapcott, aged 19, plans to make her first professional appearance on the European women's golf tour.

She played a leading role in Great Britain and Ireland's second successive victory over the United States at Royal St George's in June. She won three of her four matches in the 11-7 victory.

My ambition is to become a champion in Europe and then the United States if I am good enough," Shapcott said. "Turning professional is the only way to improve and reach that level."

Curtis Cup team, captained by Dianne Bailey (above, from left) Vicky Bailey, Susan Shapcott, Linda Bayman, Dianne Bailey, Liz Boatman, Jill Thornhill and Julie Wade, yesterday received their Women's Golfer of the Year awards, sponsored by Avia Watches.

Scotland centre banned for a week

By Alan Lovimer and Peter Bills

Scott Hastings, the Scotland centre and younger brother of Gavin Hastings, the full back, has been suspended for one week with effect from yesterday by the Scottish Rugby Union (SRU) after playing in the Dubai International Sevens tournament last month without seeking its permission.

The SRU stated yesterday that a panel had been appointed by the general committee, which, after interviewing Hastings, ratified the SRU decision to impose the seven-day ban.

An SRU spokesman re-asserted its position: "All players and indeed teams playing abroad and vice versa must seek permission from both the unions involved for all games."

Yesterday the SRU secretary, Bill Hogg, said that he had circulated letters to all Scottish clubs at the beginning of this season advising them of this matter and adding that the SRU was only following international board guidelines which, among other disclosures, insist that players give "confirmation that there is no financial consideration" if they are playing abroad.

Hogg also stated that the SRU would generally refuse permission for individuals to play abroad if it meant missing a national league match and would give approval only when a representative game was involved.

By disciplining such a high-profile player, the SRU, perhaps conscious of the "damage" caused by fans of their players taking part in the Bermuda Rugby Union Festival before the World Cup last year, resulting in the virtual ending of John Rutherford's career, has reasserted its authority over its players.

The thinking behind what outwardly seems punitive measures is that the union wants to ensure that none of its rugby players contravenes any agreement relating to such issues as apartheid. But perhaps more important, it has in mind the concept of the "honest professional" that has become the label of many anti-apartheid players who play their rugby in Europe.

Hastings, who has been capped 12 times for Scotland, will miss the McEwan's Inter-district match against the Anglo-Scots at Myreside.

Urge to compete draws Coe to indoor circuit

By Pat Butcher, Athletics Correspondent

Sebastian Coe's putative political career may take even longer to materialize, since a combination of Olympic disappointment and continued enthusiasm for training will probably prolong his involvement in international athletics until the Commonwealth Games in New Zealand in early 1990.

He said yesterday: "I wanted to see how I'd get back into training—I had four weeks off after the Olympics—and I'm really enjoying it. I've not seen plans. I'll run four or five indoor races to get ready for the summer grand prix circuit. I'd probably call it a day at the end of next year if the Commonwealth wasn't so close (February). So I'll probably hang around for that."

Coe would probably have retired already, had he run his third Olympic Games, but he has never won a Commonwealth title. He missed 1978 in preference to the European championships, was injured in

1982 and withdrew, ill, from the 1986 800 metres final.

"I'll admit I've been short of racing in the last couple of years. But I was getting back last season. I just ran out of time and goodwill. As for the indoors, I need the races."

Coe's programme will probably be: Genoa on February 1; San Sebastian (where Coe emerged internationally, winning the European indoor 800 metres title in 1977) on February 10; Stuttgart two days later; The Hague on February 22, three days after the European championships on the same track, and Sindelfingen, West Germany, on February 26.

Although Coe is more likely to be sending a Christmas card to Conservative Central Office than to the British Amateur Athletic Board after they denied him the chance of defending his double 1,500 metres title, he rejected suggestions yesterday that he would not run for Britain

again. "Evidently, if I was offered a place at the European indoor championships, I would have to consider it."

Similar reasons are bringing Said Aouita scurrying to the indoor circuit, albeit the one in the United States. The Moroccan, who promised much in Seoul but ended with "only" a bronze medal in the 800 metres, will run five races on the North American grand prix circuit before returning to Europe for the world indoor championships in Budapest from March 3 to 5.

The highlight will probably be the Wanamaker Mile at the Millrose Games in Madison Square Garden, New York, on February 3, when Eamonn Coghlan, in his last indoor season, will be attempting a record eighth victory. Aouita's other races will be in Fairfax (Abdi Bile's alma mater) on February 5, Meadowlands on February 10, Los Angeles on February 17, and the TAC championships in New York

Cowdrey fined for critical remarks

By Ivo Tennant

The Disciplinary Committee of the Test and County Cricket Board (TCCB) yesterday imposed a fine of £500 on Christopher Cowdrey for derogatory comments he made about the England selectors and management which were published in *The Sun* newspaper in September, shortly after he left the England captaincy.

The TCCB does not permit a cricketer to make public statements, or more to the point, critical statements, without their consent or that of the player's county. At the beginning of each season, every player signs a declaration to the effect that he knows and understands all the regulations pertaining to playing first-class cricket. This is supported by the players' body, the Cricketers' Association.

Disciplinary Committee regulations are sometimes forgotten in off-guarded moments several months later. Cowdrey was cautioned by his county, Kent, but the TCCB

clearly felt that was not sufficient punishment.

As fines go, it is not a particularly hefty one—Mike Gatting was fined £5,000 for being in breach of contract over the publication in his autobiography of his dispute with Shakoor Rana in Pakistan. That fine was the highest imposed by the TCCB, Chris Old having been fined £2,000 for a critical newspaper article in 1982.

However, the Disciplinary Committee will have taken into account the fact that Cowdrey was not paid for talking to *The Sun*. Gatting, on the other hand, will have made a very tidy sum out of his autobiography.

Cowdrey accepted he was guilty of a breach of contract and apologized to the TCCB. He would not comment after his hearing at Lord's yesterday.

The start of the match between MCC and the county champions, Worcestershire, at Lord's has been put back a day to Saturday, April 15.

Olympians to keep to themselves

By Peter Bills

The decision of the British Olympic Association (BOA) not to seek future representation on the other main bodies of British sport has set back plans for a single body to administer sport in Britain in the future.

The news, announced yesterday by the BOA after its monthly meeting, means that the ideal of a single structure to replace the three existing organizations, the BOA, the Central Council for Physical Recreation (CCPR) and the Sports Council, is much less likely.

The BOA described its decision as "by far the most businesslike approach" open to it. Dick Palmer, the secretary, said: "We feel that the BOA will grow in stature rather than decrease by meeting separately with these bodies rather than just staying on their committees. It is simply a case of making better use of everyone's time."

However, Peter Lawson, general secretary of the CCPR, defended his vision of a single body for British sport. "I hope that what Dick Palmer is saying does not preclude that ideal. Although in a sense I think he is probably right in thinking the BOA has a specific job to do, I always hoped that there could eventually be a general merging into one body with three divisions to take sport forward."

Mary Fitzhenry, for the Sports Council, said it would be sad if the BOA did not have an input into British sport as a whole. She welcomed the idea of regular meetings. "There is no doubt they have expertise in certain areas we would want to tap into," she said.

SPORT IN BRIEF

Brundle at Brabham

Martin Brundle has joined the Brabham Formula One team for next season after winning the world sports car championship for TWR Jaguar with seven victories and minor placings in his 16 other races.

Irish home

The Football Association of Ireland has bought Dalymount Park in Dublin, "spiritual home" of Irish football, for £600,000 from Bohemians, the League of Ireland club.

Vote for Steeb

Gothenburg (AFP) — Carl-Uwe Steeb will be West Germany's second singles player alongside Boris Becker for the Davis Cup final against Sweden starting tomorrow.

Snowball dies

Elizabeth Alexandra (Betty) Snowball, who died at Colwall, Worcestershire, on Tuesday, aged 82, is widely regarded as England's best woman wicketkeeper after 10 Tests in the 1930s, when she also formed an opening partnership with Myrtle MacLagan.

Drugs denial

Canberra (Reuters) — Lyn Jones, the head weightlifting coach at the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS), denied allegations he has ever given anabolic steroids to competitors.

Leocoste: withdraws

Perth (AP) — Henri Leocoste has withdrawn from the Hopman Cup here on December 28 with an ankle injury and is replaced by Thierry Tulasne, another Frenchman.

Tulasne call

Perth (AP) — Henri Leocoste has withdrawn from the Hopman Cup here on December 28 with an ankle injury and is replaced by Thierry Tulasne, another Frenchman.

Vessey move

Rupert Vessey, the wing who captained Oxford University to victory in last week's rugby union University match, has joined Northampton.

Card concessions are 'not enough'

By Clive White

The possibility of some moderation in the Government's plan to introduce identity cards for football supporters did little yesterday to appease the football authorities who still cling to the hope that the Bill will not get through Parliament.

In response to a report in *The Times* that the Government is examining ways of ensuring that supporters are not driven away from football, the Football League said: "We welcome any move which might get the proposals watered down to some degree, to minimize the inconvenience and mitigate the harmful effect of the scheme."

The Football Association, in describing the proposed changes as making "the best of the bad job", remained unconvinced that the scheme would achieve its desired effect of eradicating hooliganism from the game.

The League felt that the concessions mentioned did not go far enough. The possible exemption of children from the scheme, the League thought, merely begged the question: Why just children? Andy Williamson, a League official, said: "Why not old-

END COLUMN One in the eye from Joe Public

By Steve Acton

The awards season is in full cry. Tonight the Sports Writers' Association of Great Britain will honour Sandy Lyle as its Sportsman of the Year. Last week Steve Davis was the hero when he won the BBC's Sports Personality of the Year award. Lyle was third in the BBC voting and Davis sixth in the writers' poll, behind Lyle, Adrian Moorhouse, Malcolm Cooper, Linford Christie, and Lloyd Honeyghan.

Therein lies a dichotomy, for in the public's eyes the BBC award is more prestigious than the SWA's. Should it perhaps be asked whether those of us who write about sport are at times out of touch with public thinking?

The result of the BBC poll engendered howls of disbelief, especially (and not surprisingly) in Scotland. It was also a smack in the eye for all those — some of Britain's most venerated sports writers among them — who believe that snooker is an overgrown pub game and not worthy of mention in the same breath as "real sport".

The BBC award was voted for by thousands of viewers who troubled to fill in their Radio Times coupons. The BBC does not release voting figures "as a matter of policy" but a spokesman said: "Steve won by a long way."

Since the great snooker boom of the late Seventies and early Eighties, some pundits have waited, with almost impatient anticipation, for the snooker bubble to burst and for the Steve Davises and Jimmy Whites to allow the nation more regular sleeping habits.

Yet snooker has not gone away. With the arrival of a new hero in Stephen Hendry and the occasional rebirth of an old one, such as Doug Mountjoy, it has found a



Davis: people's choice

steady plateau on which to exist in Britain and is rapidly growing in popularity throughout the world.

No wonder that other power groups, such as the International Billiards and Snooker Federation, are attempting to muscle in on the World Professional Billiards and Snooker Association's virtual monopoly of the professional game. It is neither reasonable nor realistic to say that the public's television viewing habits are not a fair guide to which sports (or games) are "important".

If that is the case, why was so much attention given this summer to football's saga over who would televise the game and how much would they pay for the privilege?

Lyle's achievement in winning the United States Masters was significant. Yet the BBC's viewing figures, with the event being shown live, peaked at 5.3 million at 10.15 p.m. on the Sunday night and the average was nearer four million.

The world championship of snooker, won by Davis, attracted an average of 7.6 million viewers on the final day, a Monday, and during the Townsend's United Kingdom snooker final on Sunday, November 27, the BBC had an average of six million viewers for the afternoon session while ITV attracted only a similar number for Newcastle United against Manchester United.

There should be no surprise that Davis won the BBC poll. He had been runner-up in 1981 and 1987 and third in 1984. He may be every grand-mother's idea of "a real gentleman" but he is also regarded as a sportsman and a credible sporting ambassador for Britain by millions of people.

Davis's win also squashed another myth. It showed that the British public do love winners, hard-faced or not, and not just those who take part.

It might also be said that other British sports folk might achieve a great deal more if they took as much care of their fitness and spent as many hours refining their skills as does Davis.

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